WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE
THE COMMON CAUSE
OF HUMANITY.

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"There is no hand that may put back the dawn."
—LADY MARGARET SACKVILLE.

ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES (NUMBER OF SOCIETIES IN THE UNION 469).

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies is a great association of men and women banded together for the single purpose of obtaining Votes for Women. It was founded in 1867, and now numbers over 45,000 annually-subscribing members, organized into 469 Societies, under the presidentship of Mrs. Henry Fawcett. The colours of the Union are SCARLET, WHITE, and GREEN. Among its members are people of all parties, and people of none. The cause that unites them is the cause of Women's Suffrage, and they work for victory by peaceful methods only. They use neither violence nor intimidation, but rely on political pressure and the education of public opinion. WILL YOU JOIN? (Membership form on p. 759.)

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Notes and Comments.

The 1914 Albert Hall Meeting.

The first work to be done in 1914—besides the by-elections, which seem to be always with us—is the organising of the great demonstration in the Albert Hall on February 14th. A special interest will be given to this meeting by its representative character. A magnificent beginning has been made by the decision of the Glasgow City Council to appoint its Lord Provost to represent it on the proposed deputation to Mr. Asquith. It is also hoped that a large number of men will be present, who will represent the labour and trade union support of Women's Suffrage. On the other hand, not a "special," but an invariable feature of all Albert Hall meetings will be the collection. Many of us have cut off nearly all financial help to other causes than that of Women's Suffrage, because we believe the subjection of women to be the tap-root from which innumerable injustices must always spring. The *Women's Industrial News* of January comments on the fact that the Suffrage movement has diverted from other forms of social service not only workers, but "an amount of money such as was not formerly believed to be within the control of women at all." Women certainly have within their control more money than was formerly the case; but even now they are without doubt "the poor sex," and an enormous proportion of the funds raised for the Suffrage represents a degree of personal self-sacrifice which can hardly be known among masculine political propaganda. The poorest are giving, and the richest. Let us, this year of grace, exceed our own record!

Two By-Elections.

The N.U.W.S.S. is already at work in two by-elections, of which particulars will be found elsewhere. In North-west Durham, the Election Fighting Fund policy will be put into force, and we have an excellent candidate in Mr. G. H. Stuart. Miss C. M. Gordon, Organiser-in-charge, appeals for funds especially for motor cars, as the constituency is a wide one, and the fatigue to speakers and workers very great if they cannot be saved some of the difficulties of travel.

Honour for Well-known Suffragist.

We are glad to see the name of one of our staunchest supporters—Mr. W. H. Dickinson—in the New Year's Honours' List. Mr. Dickinson is the author of the "Dickinson Bill," and has voted for every Women's Suffrage Bill since 1908. He showed the strength of his convictions by putting down his name to Mr. Snowden's amendment to the Home Rule Bill, for which he acted as teller. This meant opposition to the Government.

A Woman in the Honours' List.

Several of the daily papers have asserted that no woman's name appears in the New Year's Honours' List. This is not quite correct. A solitary woman has been thought worthy of honour, the Kaiser-i-Hind Gold Medal being awarded to the Reverend Mother Mechtilda, Mother Superior of the Loreto Convent, Shillong, Assam. The Rev. Mother is seventy years of age and has worked without intermission in the cause of education for nearly a quarter of a century. The Kaiser-i-Hind medal is awarded for important services rendered to the Empire of India in any public capacity. Many women have received the medal; usually for services in connection with nursing or education.

Though glad that women have not been overlooked altogether in the Honours' List, we should like to echo the question with which the *Daily Sketch*, of December 30th, prefaces a page of portraits of well-known Englishwomen: "Why should women, who beat men in intellect or service, be passed over in the Honours' List just because they are women?" Among the names put forward by the *Daily Sketch* as worthy of honour are those of our President (Mrs. Fawcett), Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, "a leader of that useful organisation, the National Union of Women Workers," Miss Horniman, founder of the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, and the Manchester Repertoire Theatre; and Dr. Ethel Smyth, composer of the "Wreckers." Out of the world of women we note that the Prime Minister (who thinks their place is the home) has selected a professed and determined celibate.

New Poor Law Orders.

The break-up of the workhouse is a reform long overdue and generally agreed upon as desirable, but it still remains unaccomplished. Meanwhile, improvement in our existing workhouses will, it is hoped, be effected by Mr. Burns's new orders which come into force on March 31st. His proposals have been before the public since July, and have been much criticised: some attempt has been made to meet the criticisms in the final orders. Before March, 1915, all children over the age of three are to be provided for outside the workhouse; in the first draft the age was five, and the Guardians were to have two years in which to remove the children, but public opinion is undoubtedly in favour of the more drastic plan. It is also now made clear that the circulars issued from time to time by the L.G.B. with regard to the more humane treatment of aged persons in workhouses are not in any sense superseded by the new order; there was some doubt about this when the new proposals were first made. A further step forward is taken as regards the nursing staff in workhouse infirmaries; it is also laid down that, where the infirmary is too small to allow of a trained nurse being regularly employed, the Guardians are to make definite arrangements—which must be submitted to the L.G.B.—for the engagement of a trained nurse when required. The new orders will strengthen the hands of progressive Guardians, and the pity is that there are still 190 Boards on which there are no women members to assist in carrying them out.

A Pure Milk Supply.

Nothing could be more enlightening than the comment of the *Times* on Mr. Robert Mond's experiments in the direction of obtaining a pure milk supply. After congratulating him on the zeal and public spirit shown in his work the writer of the article expresses his regret at the costliness of the system advocated, and goes on—"For general use, a system less elaborate than that advocated by Mr. Buckley, it is feared, will have to suffice." Compare this with the language used by all responsible persons about (for instance) our armaments. Can one even begin to imagine the effect on Parliament of advocating rather less expensive guns or a second-rate kind of warship? Yet it is at least arguable that children are the first wealth of the Empire, and armaments only exist to defend the race!

Harsh Working of the Probation Act.

We have received particulars of a cruelly hard case of suffering resulting from the administration of the Probation Act. A young girl of eighteen lost her place three times (on one occasion being turned into the street late in the evening), because she received letters from the Police Court Missionary, and the fact of her previous conviction became known. Feeling she had to choose between failing to report to the Missionary and losing any post she might get, she finally chose the former course, and was, in consequence, re-arrested and charged. She was greatly distressed, and said she was doing her best to earn an honest living. The magistrate discharged her with the remark that she "should not have left her letters lying about." There seems to be no suggestion that she did, and if she did so on the first occasion, it is certainly very unlikely that she ever did it again. As the letters in each case had "Highgate Police Court" stamped on the front, and a seal on the back, it is plain that it would be almost impossible for the knowledge of her previous conviction to be kept a secret. The magistrate said that the missionary was "not to blame." It must, then, be those responsible for managing the details of administration who are to blame. The law cannot have been intended to be applied in such a manner as to brand unfortunate victims, and make it practically impossible for them to recover their self-respect or earn an honest living.

The "English Review" and the "Common Cause."

It is distressing to learn that the *English Review* does not like THE COMMON CAUSE any more. But, indeed, we had hardly hoped for its approval.

"If all the good people were clever,
And all clever people were good,
The world would be nicer than ever
We thought that it possibly could.

"But somehow it seems that they never
Can quite hit it off as they should;
The good are so *harsh* to the clever—
The clever so *rude* to the good."

We modestly leave it to our contemporary to cast the parts.

ALBERT HALL MEETING.

Appeal from Mrs. Fawcett.

We have to remind you of the work that lies before us during the coming twelve months. The political situation remains unchanged, and the pledges which were given to us by the Government at the time of the introduction of the Franchise Reform Bill remain unfulfilled. It has been demonstrated that it is useless to rely on a Private Member's Women's Suffrage Bill, and we therefore have no choice but to concentrate upon a demand for a Government measure.

The phenomenal growth of our movement throughout the country emphasises the urgency for legislation in accordance with the public recognition of women's claim for enfranchisement. Although a large majority of the supporters of the present Government are in favour of Women's Suffrage, yet they appear willing to allow the view of the minority to prevail, while admitting that they would be unable to resist an insistent public demand. Our task is, therefore, to see to it that the public demand shall be heard in such a way that it can no longer be ignored by members of the Government. Mr. Asquith said in reply to our deputation on August 8th, 1913: "Parliament, as has always hitherto happened, and as I hope and believe will always happen in the future, will yield as it is bound to yield, to the opinion of the country."

Our first effort in the New Year will be a great demonstration at the Albert Hall, on Saturday, February 14th, to voice the demand for a Government Bill, and to inaugurate a Women's Suffrage Mandate Fund. We ask you, therefore, to give us such assistance as lies in your power, to prove beyond a shadow of doubt that the people of this country demand a measure for the enfranchisement of women.

During the past year over £20,000 has been administered from headquarters, and besides this, an almost equal sum has been raised by our societies for their own local needs. This is an indication that our movement gains ground daily with ever-increasing strength and activity. As more money is required, so more must be forthcoming to maintain this progress and to carry on the vast campaign that is planned for the present year both in London and throughout the country.

We have to insure that the public will insist on Women's Suffrage being made a test question at the next General Election.

The work of Suffragists is already bearing fruit in the growing prominence and consideration given to questions affecting the interests of women in every social relationship, and it is without any hesitation, but rather with pride and with confidence, that we renew our appeal for funds. The money spent to obtain the political freedom of women can bring nothing but good.

We beg that you will send or promise us as large a donation as possible to be announced at the meeting.—Yours faithfully,

MILLICENT G. FAWCETT.
HELENA AUERBACH.

ALBERT HALL DEMONSTRATION.

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Donations may be earmarked for the Election Fighting Fund and for any special purpose if donors particularly desire it, but the main object on this occasion is the raising of a large central fund for Headquarters, of which 20 per cent. will be devoted to the work of the London Society in the London area.

Cheques and postal orders should be made payable to the Hon. Treasurer, N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, and *crossed* "London County and Westminster Bank. Not Negotiable."

SOME EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCES.

Higher Ideals.

Several important conferences on education have taken place during the past week. A hopeful sign—which appeared in all these gatherings—was the wide view of the aims and objects of education taken by many of the speakers. The aim of the old system of education was, apparently, to turn out scholars after a uniform pattern. But gradually greater elasticity is being introduced, the claim of the individual child is beginning to receive attention, and a free, all-round development is becoming the ideal of the educationalist. As Mrs. K. Norris put it, in a paper on Sectional Teaching read before the Annual Conference of Teachers convened by the London County Council:—

"One great object . . . was to abolish the inertia, the immobility, and silence in class, which were regarded by some teachers as marks of excellent discipline, and to develop an atmosphere of controlled freedom, in which the teacher was the guiding spirit, attracting and leading, but not repressing or forbidding."

A high ideal was also expressed by the Duke of Devonshire, in presiding over the North of England Educational Conference held last week in Bradford. "A point," he said, "has been reached at which the aim of education is not to produce show pupils, but to raise the spiritual, intellectual, and physical character of the nation as a whole." The same width of view was seen in the appeal to employers made at the Mansion House on Monday by the Marquis of Salisbury. In urging employers to co-operate with the London County Council in their new scheme of evening schools, he said:—

"The principal danger of modern industrial conditions was the deadly routine to which everyone was exposed. It took the heart out of people. The only way to counteract that routine was to see that every opportunity was given to the child to understand and to take an interest in the wider aspects of the work it had to do. Cultivate its intelligence, excite its imagination, and teach it that it was not merely a wheel in a machine, but a living agent."

No doubt, many employers would desire the evening institutes to be devoted exclusively to vocational work; but though, in the commercial and technical institutes, and in the special women's institutes, everything is being done to make the training bear directly upon the future occupations of the pupils, general culture is not entirely neglected. The ideal of such institutes should be to train young people for life, as well as for work, and the L.C.C.'s new scheme at least makes an effort in this direction.

Inadequate Pay of Teachers.

An important point discussed by the North of England Teachers' Conference was that of the training and supply of teachers. Mr. Dakers, President of the National Union of Teachers, in a paper on "The Supply of Teachers: Why it is Failing," maintained that:—

"The cause was the low salaries paid to teachers. The Board of Education had discovered the cause, but they shrank from prescribing the proper remedy Instead, they advised measures which were calculated to aggravate the disease. In other words, the Board were prepared to flood the schools with unsuitable and inefficient teachers, in order to meet the difficulties created by short-sighted parsimony. Increased financial aid was to be given, not for the purpose of raising the salaries of competent teachers, but for the purpose of assisting children of poor parents to undergo that preliminary training in a secondary school which the Board considered essential to the making of a teacher. The grants ended with the period spent in the secondary school. And, as parents who could not afford to send their children to a secondary school could still less afford to allow them to go to a training college to complete their professional qualification, the young persons who were entrapped by this offer of maintenance grants would find their further progress hopelessly blocked, and find themselves relegated to one of the most dreary of all blind-alley occupations."

The question of the shortage of teachers was also discussed on Tuesday at the annual meeting of the Incorporated Association of Headmasters, Sir John McClure in his presidential address declaring that:—

"The shortage of teachers was already being felt, and the outlook was very serious; nor were they likely to obtain more or better trained men and women until the salaries paid were more adequate, and satisfactory arrangements as to pensions and retiring allowances had been made. Many municipalities seemed quite unable to appreciate the time, the labour, the ability, and the money necessary to equip a man or woman as a teacher, even in the lower ranks of the profession. . . . There was yet another serious aspect of the case. Other things being equal, a married man was a better and more efficient schoolmaster than a bachelor. A profession which practically enforced celibacy on a large proportion of its members stands self-condemned, for to that extent it is inimical to the best interests of the country."

Does this not hold true of married women teachers also? But there seems to be a strong tendency on the part of Education authorities to debar married women from the teaching profession.

WOMEN AND UNIVERSITY HONOURS.

A number and variety of distinctions have been obtained by women in the recent examinations for the degree in Dublin University. Miss Margaret Webster has obtained first place among the moderators in Mathematics, and Miss Georgina McCormick has won a gold medal in Philosophy. Gold medals —which are awarded to those who obtain first place in moderatorship with peculiarly brilliant answering—were also gained by Miss Janie Renton in Modern Literature, and Mr. Thomas in Natural Science, being the only man this year to gain a similar honour. Out of the thirty-five senior moderatorships in 1913, women—who constitute only about one-fifth of the students of the University—have gained thirteen.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER AND WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Mr. Lloyd George, interviewed by the *Daily Chronicle*:—

"Do you still maintain your interest in Women's Suffrage?"

"Personally, I cannot imagine a complete programme of Liberal reforms which leaves half the citizens of this country unenfranchised. Whenever a reform, to which we have set our hands, directly affects women as much as men—nay, more, directly affects women more than men—it always seems to me to be an unarguable proposition that the opinion of women should not be constitutionally sought and expressed upon the rival proposals for settling these questions.

"This conviction, I am satisfied, is seizing hold so firmly on some of the best minds in the country, especially among the Progressive forces, that the present position must soon become intolerable for the Liberal Party. . . .

"Militancy alone is holding it back.

"This is a great national misfortune, for every great and beneficent cause would be strengthened beyond reckoning by the admission of women to the franchise, always provided that it was a full and unrestricted admission."

WOMEN AND INDUSTRIAL LEGISLATION.

An article by Miss Gertrude Tuckwell appeared in the *Manchester Guardian* on January 5th, on the need for legislative reforms for women workers. Every Suffragist should buy it, and read it, and keep it. It is a most valuable indictment of existing legislation, by an expert second to none in knowledge and authority. It is almost impossible to quote from an argument so close-knit, but we would point out that the article deals with the excessive fining of women, overtime, and the need for more women-inspectors. Miss Tuckwell says of the law on these points: "Not only is its state abominable, but such it has been for as long as most of us can remember."

CHILDREN'S THEATRE.

On January 1st, the first performance of Mrs. Dearmer's play, "The Cockyolly Bird," was given at the Royal Court Theatre. The play is one which all children—especially little children—are sure to enjoy. It is just the sort of thing that they themselves are likely to play at, and it is simply and naturally written. Kit, a little boy in great trouble over his geography, is shut up in the schoolroom to learn his lesson, and hears the cockyolly song of his toy which admits him to Toyland. There he finds that he can travel on the schoolroom globe, which has now grown much bigger than himself. He and his best beloved toys—the Cockyolly Bird, a teddy bear, and a black doll—at once set out for the North Pole, where the penguins dance to them and Kit is nearly eaten by the bears. Then, by means of an airship, they go to Japan, where they are entertained by charming little Japanese girls; and finally to a cannibal island, where they are all nearly eaten by cannibals! Of course, when Kit gets back to the schoolroom he knows all about geography, much to the surprise of his governess; but when they all come to talk about the magic cockyolly songs, it appears that Kit's mother, and even the unsympathetic Miss Brown, have heard it too in their time. So they can all join hands with the toy people who gather about them and dance the "Forty Dukes" to one of the most catching tunes which Mr. Martin Shaw has written. His music has life and gaiety, none the less because it is artist's work; and in this it matches the play. Miss Henrietta Watson makes a delightful mother: as for the child-actors, they diffuse an air of thorough enjoyment. Fay Lilmar, as the boy Kit, Elsie Granville as the doll Jum-Jum, and Doris Prosser as the little Japanese girl who turns up again in Kit's nursery, all act with charm and spirit; while Dorothy Manville, as the Cockyolly Bird, crows in a way that might make any farmyard jealous.

BRITISH DOMINIONS OVERSEAS.

WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE UNION.

The foundation work towards the formation of this new Woman Suffrage Union is advancing steadily. The object of this union is to secure for the women in the British Dominions overseas the same political rights as are enjoyed by the men, and to arouse women, enfranchised as well as unenfranchised, to a fuller sense of their duties and responsibilities as citizens. The proposal to form such a union originated in New Zealand in March, 1913, and it has been approved by almost every one of the women's societies there. In Australia the idea has been taken up with great enthusiasm. In South Africa warm appreciation has been expressed. Miss Newcomb, the Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, has, with her friend, Miss Hodge, visited during the last year almost every city and town in New Zealand, every one of the States of Australia, and all the chief centres in the Union of South Africa. Miss Newcomb and Miss Hodge intend to visit Canada in the spring of this year, on the same errand. The Hon. Secretary has already corresponded with the leading Suffragists in the Dominion, and has received from many of them answers expressing eager desire for the formation of the Union.

The work of the Union will be discussed at a conference to be held in London in July next. Probably the most important branch of the work will be to organise interchange of news concerning Suffrage activities and every form of women's political work.

WOMEN COUNCILLORS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

At the Congress of United Municipal Associations of South Africa, sitting at Bloemfontein, the following resolution was passed:—

"That this meeting is of opinion that where the Municipal Election laws in force in any Province of the Union provide for the municipal enfranchisement of women, women should be allowed to offer themselves as candidates for membership on the Councils of local authorities in such Province."

One delegate said there were enough old women on Councils at present, and it was high time new blod was introduced. As regards health questions, women would do, and had done, splendid work. The Natal delegates were opposed to the resolution, arguing that, if carried, they would have to allow the coolie and native women also to have a vote.

A WOMEN'S MEETING IN INDIA.

(From a Correspondent.)

During a few days' visit to Calcutta, I was present at a meeting of about 150 Bengali ladies, who had met to protest against the treatment of Indians in South Africa and to collect money for sufferers there. A sum of £10 was contributed on the spot, and a further sum of £70 was promised. Several ladies read short papers in Bengali to the meeting, one of these ladies being a Mahommedan. The sentiments expressed were akin to those of similar meetings being held throughout India, though my ignorance of Bengali prevented my understanding them. One lady was daughter-in-law of Rabindranath Tagore; another manages an institution for training widows as teachers, etc.; another told me she was a keen suffragist, and had taken part in processions in England.

The meeting was held in a compound, secluded from the street, and was entirely organised by the ladies themselves.

NEWS FROM ABROAD.

UNITED STATES. Correction.

According to the *Woman's Journal*, the report that President Wilson refused to advise the setting up of a standing Suffrage Committee in the House of Representatives is incorrect. On the contrary, on December 8th, he announced to a large delegation of Suffragists at Washington that he favours the appointment of such a committee, and this is considered an important step in advance. He said, however, that he was not at liberty to urge Congress to pass the Suffrage Amendment, because the democratic party platform, upon which he had been elected, had not mentioned the matter.

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ALASKA.

It will be remembered that the women of Alaska won their full Suffrage this year. They have now been placed on an equality with men in regard to civil rights. Section 495 of the Compiled Laws of Alaska, 1913, reads :—

"All laws which impose or recognise civil disability on a wife which is not imposed or recognised as existing as to the husband are hereby repealed: and for any unjust usurpation of her property or natural rights she shall have the same right to appeal in her own name alone to all courts for redress that the husband has."

Mrs. James Wickersham is quoted in the *Woman's Journal* as making the following comment :—

"This section is typical of the laws of Alaska. A woman there, whether married or single, has the same civil rights that a man has. This status is not the result of mere chivalry, but is based upon the fundamental proposition that the wives and sisters of Alaska are as good as the men, and have equal burdens with them in extending civilisation into that undeveloped region."

ILLINOIS.

The Constitution of Illinois, unlike that of other States, enabled the Legislature to pass its Suffrage Bill without the usual submission to a Referendum.

Owing to this peculiarity, the question has been seriously raised as to whether the Illinois Woman Suffrage Law is constitutional. The *Woman's Journal* now informs us that an important test case was decided on November 28th, when the constitutionality of the Suffrage Law was upheld by Judge Schuwerk at Chester, Illinois. It is the liquor interest which has raised the question from the beginning, and the action was brought by certain saloon keepers. Mrs. Husted Harper dealt with the subject in the *Englishwoman* for November, and remarked that "if the enemy find there is no way in which to declare the action of the Legislature illegal, and if the women are allowed to cast their ballots at the spring elections, they are safe for ever after." The Illinois Equal Suffrage Association, however, now feel secure in their rights.

MRS. YOUNG RESTORED TO OFFICE.

The bitter hostility of the corrupt elements in Chicago to Mrs. Ella Flagg Young's educational policy succeeded in driving her from office for a second time last month. Once more, however, the determination of Chicago women (now armed with the vote) has compelled her restoration. We learn (not from Suffrage papers but from the ordinary press) that "nobody has seriously questioned her exceptional efficiency," but "it is whispered that she has a womanish inability to adapt educational methods to corrupt politics!" It is added that "the women's organisation, political and civic, are solidly behind her."

AUSTRIA.

We have already reported that the housewives of Vienna and Brünn have organised a successful campaign against excessive prices of milk and coal. *Die Frauenbewegung* informs us that the leaders of their movement, in recognition of these services, have been co-opted on to the Borough Board, which is occupied with such questions. The Government have also included these women in a commission engaged on question of trusts and monopolies, in order that the interests of the consumers may be represented.

JAPANESE FACTORY GIRLS.

The *Daily Telegraph* reports that "In Japan, legislation for the protection of the workers has not kept pace with industrial expansion. In factories employing girls, the conditions are said to be such as to call for drastic remedy. Keen competition compels the employers to economise rigidly, and the burden of taxation, together with the size of families, has forced the working classes to accept conditions which they would not otherwise tolerate. The terms of employment in the factories are reported to have become steadily worse. At a recent meeting of the National Medical Association, it was stated that there were 500,000 factory girls in Japan, and that of these 300,000 were under the age of twenty. Some 400,000 of the girls are employed in spinning and weaving. Seventy per cent. of them live in dormitories, established partially with a view to their detention, as large numbers run away after a few months. Girls engaged in spinning, work on an average thirteen to fourteen hours a day, and those in weaving factories fourteen to sixteen hours. Naturally, their health suffers through want of rest and working in insanitary workshops. It has been stated that a factory employing 1,000 girls has to engage 800 new hands every year in order to maintain the staff at full strength."

January Magazines, 1914.

The Englishwoman opens this month with a greeting to Suffragists from Mrs. Fawcett breathing a spirit of hope and encouragement. She takes as her text the last words of Cavour, who saw with the eyes of faith the ultimate victory of the movement for the unification of Italy: "*La cosa Va.*" "The thing we have worked for so long is moving—and moving rapidly," says Mrs. Fawcett, and points to the signs of progress of the Women's Suffrage in the past year. "Problems of the Day," by Logic, is a reasoned appeal to extreme feminists and Anti-suffragists to abstain from baseless generalisms about women. The extreme feminist who says "all women are alike, but I am the pioneer of the glorious dawn while you are a sodden-hearted slave" is just as ridiculous and illogical as the Anti-suffragist who proclaims that "all women are alike, yet I am an angel in the house while you are an unsexed hooligan." In the heat of controversy it is difficult to avoid the temptation of trying to prove too much, and "Logic" would like all opponents and friends of Women's Suffrage to begin the year with a firm resolve not to use as a weapon of argument the "time-worn rock of offence: all women are alike." In an article entitled "A Christmas Book," Miss Lowndes deals with "Round about a Pound a Week," by Mrs. Pember Reeves, and recommends every woman who reads that book to give a copy of it to a friend for a New-Year's gift; for in "this terrible little volume the purdah curtains are lifted, behind which the toiling millions of the female sex perform their hard labour and accomplish their destiny." No better introduction to Mrs. Reeves's book could be given than is contained in this article. "Women's Work in the Municipality," by L. Keyser Yates, and "With Bulgar and Greek" from the diary of a nursing sister, give evidence of women's desire for "freedom to serve."

Jus Suffragii.—The January number of *Jus Suffragii* is full of interest. British Suffragists will probably read first Miss Chrystal Macmillan's article on the "Municipal Suffrage of Women in India." "The Woman Voter in Australia and New Zealand" is by Miss Margaret Hodge, who is at present in England on her way to Canada with Miss Newcomb, where she hopes to organise Canadian support for the Suffrage Union of the British Dominions Overseas. There is also a valuable résumé of advance in the United States, and an account of active Suffrage work in Italy.

The Women's Industrial News has an article on "Government Contracts and the Disfranchised Worker," by Mrs. Bernard Drake, which should be read by everyone interested in the economic aspect of the Suffrage question.

The Contemporary.—A distinctly hopeful article on "Syndicalism and the Labour Situation," by J. H. Harley; dealing with methods of political amendment. An article on "Property and Society"; J. E. G. de Montmorency on the necessity of re-individualising property. A sympathetic review of Mrs. St. Clair Stobart's book, "War and Women."

XIXth Century and After.—Eight new love letters of Jane Welsh, and the history of their loss and recovery, Alexander Carlyle. "Woman and Morality," Mrs. Archibald Colquhoun; from her well-known position of panic at the progress of "feminist" ideas.

English Review.—"The State and the Family," by the Editor.

Cornhill.—"Miss Gaskell," Bishop Welldon. "Grand Aunts," by Letts. A picture of the cultured woman of the past.

The Dial.—Article on "Social Work and Legislation; Two Departments of Rescue Work," by E. Romanes. "A Survey," which deals, among other subjects, with the migration of women, and the Commission on the question of civil servants and their wages.

Some Recent Books.

My Father. By Estelle W. Stead. (Heinemann. 10s. net.)

To those who knew W. T. Stead as social reformer, journalist, and the centre of gatherings of intellect and wit, the biography presented by his daughter, Miss Estelle W. Stead, under the title "My Father," comes as a disappointment. Not that the author fails in appreciation of the man and his work, but that she has presented in full only one side of a great personality, and that the side which least touches the interests of the average man and woman.

W. T. Stead's participation in psychical experiences and in "Borderland" experiments were in truth a very real part of his life; but the proportion has been distorted by his biographer, so that W. T. Stead, the vital force in journalism and in politics, is hardly apparent. Warning is certainly given by the author in her "Foreword" that no attempt is made in the volume "to cover the whole of my father's life," and that especial stress has been laid on his adventures in spiritualism; but this hardly explains the fact that when the biographer touches her father's work in the world of men and women, that the vivid personality of "the prince of journalists" is never evoked. For W. T. Stead was one of the greatest powers for social reform that the press has known in our generation—a man whose courage never failed him in pushing forward a cause in which he believed, whatever risks of unpopularity his newspaper might thereby incur. His services to women illustrate this unswerving loyalty to his beliefs. For such devotion to their cause the women of all lands are now uniting to raise to his memory a monument such as he would have approved: the erection of lodging-houses

for homeless girls and women throughout the world. But no mention is made in this volume of the women's tribute to their friend.

Here and there glimpses of the greatness of W. T. Stead peep through in this book in such passages as the autobiographical "Notes"; yet there are sides of his character entirely omitted. One never meets, for example, the W. T. Stead who would have sacrificed all but honour for the sake of a journalistic "scoop." One never faces throughout the volume the imperious editor, who ever turned his newspaper into a "one-man job" (and that his own), and one hardly realises from these pages the superhuman loveableness of the man which rendered him at all times, and in spite of all things, the revered idol of every member of his staff.

Still, the main facts of his life are recorded in this work, and pending a more complete biography, it would be well for Suffragists to acquaint themselves with the history of an editor who was throughout his life the champion of the women's cause.

L. K. Y.

ROUND ABOUT A POUND A WEEK. By Mrs. Pember Reeves. (Bell. 2s. 6d.)

Mrs. Pember Reeves gives, in a very interesting form, an account of the mode of life of respectable families with an income of about a pound a week. The facts she has collected are the result of an investigation carried on for four years by a committee of the Fabian Women's Group. They go far to explain the high rate of infant mortality, and the low standard of health and physique found in certain districts of our large towns. While avoiding all emotional appeal, Mrs. Pember Reeves gives a touching picture of the heroic struggle which thousands of working-class mothers are making, against desperate odds, to keep their children healthy and happy. The bread-winner also is shown in a pleasant light—not so unselfish as the mother, but a steady, kind-hearted fellow, keeping back only a very small part of his earnings for his own pocket money. "Drink," says Mrs. Reeves, "the committee had expected to find as a normal condition . . . Experience, however, went to prove that . . . the 1s. 6d. or 2s. which they (married men in regular work earning from 18s. to 26s. a week) keep for themselves, has to pay for their own clothes and perhaps fares. . . . Many of the men were teetotallers, and some did not even smoke."

SUCCESS.

The youth goes forth alone, and in his ears
  There ring these words: "Success, it shall be thine."
Before his eyes a floating banner rears
  A feast of colour, and the gold threads shine.

He says: "Straight be my course, and firm my will;
  I shall not swerve nor bend. Thus gain I all—
Fair fame, and tender love. Thus I fulfil
  The purpose high of which I hear the call."

The years fly past. And now a man returns.
  His head hangs heavy; his mute lips and eyes
Bespeak an agony. Yet one discerns
  The spirit of a man who fights and dies.

A man who fights and dies, but never swerves.
  Whence then the sorrow, whence the lines of pain?
And where the golden thread, the flag that serves
  To point the joy that follows in its train?

No beauteous banner streams upon the wind.
  Only a pole he holds, whence tatters hang;
Shreds left of joy withheld, of love unkind.
  To him no honour came; for him no joy bells rang.

"My son, what hast thou brought? Of thy fair fame
  Display the token, of thy deep love the sign."
"Alas, I come as one who failed. My name
  Unhonoured. The love so deeply mine.

No answering echo found. I failed in all.
  Thou canst not know how bitter was that life
Of yearnings unfulfilled; the tottering fall
  From hopes raised high, the aching strife

Of fame denied." "My son, was thy path straight?"
  "Crooked it lay; but straight I walked through all."
"If thou hadst followed tortuous ways, then Fate
  Had smiled, and haply answered to thy call.

My son, 'tis well. Thou bear'st from out the fight
  The rod of courage high, whence virtue flows
To heal thy wounds. What of the pennons bright?
  This *is* success, and no man greater knows."

L. F. WARING.

Correspondence.

WOMEN AND MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

MADAM,—I am sorry that I misunderstand Mrs. Chadwicks's position. It is a fact, however, that the policy which I opposed in my letter, namely, running the Labour candidate in three-cornered municipal elections, irrespective of what Suffrage value the other candidates may have, is the policy advocated by certain prominent and honoured members of our society. Dr. Williams's letter sufficiently demonstrates this.

Dr. Williams claims that our support of labour in municipal elections stand on all fours with our support of labour in Parliamentary elections, and doubtless the parallel could be stretched so far. The point at issue is how far it should be stretched: none of us, I suppose, would consider it politic to go to the support of labour, say, in a sympathetic strike, and yet it might be argued that we should thus strengthen the hands of our main ally. But in defining our policy, with respect to labour, there is, surely, for all practical purposes, a distinction to be drawn between the legislative body through which our Bill must pass, if at all, and an administrative body which has only a remote concern with the Bill even if it passes.

I should like to thank Dr. Williams for her letter, and for so kindly attributing my view to a failing which leans to virtue's side—an idealism which leaves me sublimely above mere questions of expediency. The fact is, however, that my view, and the view of the Sunderland Committee, is based on a quite mundane consideration of ways and means. Until we know that one implement is sufficient, it is a pity recklessly to repudiate the others. If Labour is our hammer, it is more than possible that Liberalism may prove to be the anvil upon which Labour must strike.—I am, Yours, &c.,

EMMA COMMON.

P.S.—Sunderland readers may be interested to know that the candidate to whom I referred was Mr. Hartley French. Before my letter was printed, however, a quite unforeseen change had occurred. Mr. Hartley French had retired from the field, and my husband had been asked, and had consented, to stand.

ACTIVE SERVICE CORPS.

MADAM,—I cordially welcome the correspondence arising out of my proposed scheme for an "Active Service Corps," and may I in a few words reply to the criticism made by Miss O'Shea on the choice of military terms and military organisation. My reasons for that choice are as follows:—First, that there is no getting away from the stern fact that we are in the midst of a very real and strenuous battle for Women's freedom; that although we National Union Suffragists do not believe in physical-force methods, yet we are using with all our might the spiritual forces of brain and heart and mind to fight against the evils of sex domination: therefore, as long as these evils exist, it is right that we should have the fighting spirit in us. Secondly, that I could find no other nomenclature that would so well interpret the characteristics that we want to see in every member of the proposed Corps—courage, endurance, comradeship, discipline, devotion to duty, and, above all, the subordination of the individual to the good of the Cause. All these qualities have been found in a greater or less degree in our soldiers, and having lived amongst them the greater part of my life, I strongly object to the words "vain-glorious" and "foolish" used in connection with what is an honourable profession, however much one may hate and deplore war, and look forward to the time when all the world will be at peace. A day or two ago I received an appeal to join the "World's Peace Army"—organised on lines "exactly paralleling those of the great war armies." Will Miss O'Shea refuse to join this peace army because the organisation is military?

KATHERINE M. HARLEY.

MADAM,—I wish strongly to support the letter of Miss Margaret O'Shea in your issue of December 26th, with reference to the above proposal. The objections she urges against the military construction and titles suggested by Mrs. Harley in introducing the scheme will, I hope, receive the sympathy and support of many Women's Suffrage workers. The *objects* of that scheme must command the hearty support of all well-wishers to the cause, but whilst we still have so many discouragements arising from the policy of the militant society, why should we adopt a nomenclature that is so completely foreign to the non-militant and law-abiding principles which we so constantly proclaim? It is surely better to emulate the conduct of the proverbial coachman, who kept well on the other side of the road, instead of trying how near to the edge of the precipice he could safely drive. The Society of which I have the honour to be Secretary has been very reluctantly obliged to decline the help of members whose support of militant methods was felt to be inconsistent with the principles of a National Union Society; and as one who is deeply convinced of the need and value of all aggressive work in support of women's just demands, I respectfully but very earnestly appeal to Mrs. Harley to recast the externals of her proposal, whilst retaining the essential and helpful purposes with which we must all so sincerely coincide.

CHARLES G. BOULLEN.

A "WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE DAY."

MADAM,—I should like to suggest that next summer a day should be observed throughout the United Kingdom as Women's Suffrage Day. It is so common for unsympathetic newspapers and politicians to

refer to the London demonstrations as small in proportion to the numbers of women in the British Isles, that some steps should be taken to make evident the real strength of the movement. No demonstration held in London or culminating there can ever indicate the numbers who desire the vote, since thousands are quite unable through claims of work at home to spend the time necessary to walk to London. Others, of course, cannot afford the unavoidable expense. Many of these could probably take part in a march or meeting in their own locality. If, therefore, at a given hour, on a particular day, London women only walked in London, and all others collected in their nearest provincial towns and marched in procession there, a far better indication would be given of the strength of the Suffrage movement. It would be necessary to ensure as complete press reports as possible of the local demonstrations, and to undertake personal canvassing beforehand, in order that each town might have a really impressive demonstration. Possibly small meetings might be arranged simultaneously in villages, wherever local Suffragists can be found to organise them.

H. W. Jevons.

THE GREAT NEED OF INEXPENSIVE MENTAL HOMES FOR THE POOR OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.

Madam,—If only readers of The Common Cause knew more of the needless suffering and discomfort endured in the County Asylums by those who, through poverty or stress are unable to pay the high fees of private mental homes, and are therefore forced to become pauper inmates, they would rise in protest, and so call attention to a great national need, and also to very necessary reform. Unfortunately, those who have friends in this position are often, for some mistaken reason, undesirous of calling attention to the fact; so hitherto much has been hidden that should undoubtedly be brought to light. For instance, from the hour a man becomes a pauper inmate of the County Asylum, he loses all personality and rights. He is stripped of his belongings, and attired in those supplied by the authorities, and these are ill-fitting, not always clean, or reserved for individual use, and in some cases must have a demoralising effect upon the patient, and are inadequate in winter to maintain comfort.

He is then delegated to an (often) over-full ward, and may have to remain there for weeks, months, or even years, to take his chance of recovery in close confinement and companionship with those of a different social standing, often more afflicted than himself. Mercifully, his friends are allowed to visit him in the general waiting room very often, and to supplement the daily rations, which, to say the least, if sufficient to maintain life, are totally insufficient to allay the pangs of hunger and exhaustion from which many mentally afflicted suffer.

Imagine the case of an educated man, accustomed to a refined if poor home, obliged to eat, and sleep, and live under conditions that would arouse the ire and awaken indignant protest from their saner brothers. Many of these are keenly alive to their position, and suffer intensely from the indignities inflicted by young and ill-trained warders, incapable of discrimination; and yet, they are too sorely handicapped by their mental condition to be able to protect themselves or others, or to obtain redress.

There are many who, like myself, would willingly and thankfully pay a small sum to ensure more comfort and care for an especial case, if only suitable homes were available. These would relieve the over-crowded lunatic asylums of their ever-increasing numbers, and give all a more reasonable chance of proper medical supervision and personal attention.

Is it any wonder that so few recover, and that many are goaded to desperation and die of despair? The conditions of life in our County Asylums are worse, if anything, than those of our criminal prisons, though the inmates are suffering from the saddest form of all human pain, and greatly needing personal attention.

The Mother of a Pauper Patient.

A GERMAN SUFFRAGIST ON ENGLISH LAW.

Madam,—Dr. Kurt A. Gerlach, one of the keenest supporters of Women's Suffrage that the earth holds, has written an excellent book, dedicated to Miss Llewelyn Davies, on the development of factory laws affecting women in England. "Die Bedeutung des Arbeiterinnenschutzes" is the title. To those who read German I recommend it, as a most useful book for speakers. It is written with the care and attention to detail, in which the German author excels all others. The period of which Dr. Gerlach writes is from 1800 up to the present day. It is published at Jena, by Gustav Fischer, and the cost is not given, but is, I imagine, about three or four marks.

I. O. Ford.

THE DUBLIN MOTHERS AND BABIES.

Madam,—The readers of The Common Cause have responded so generously to our appeal for help to feed 1,000 mothers and babes, victims of the Dublin strike, which still drags on its weary length, that I again venture to appeal to them for help to enable the "Children's White Cross League" to keep open the doors of its relief centre in Dublin while the strike lasts. With this cold spell of winter weather upon us their sufferings must increase tenfold, and we have money only for another week with which to alleviate them.

Will your readers again help to keep open the doors of "The Children's White Cross League Relief Centre in Dublin? this is anxious work. Subscriptions will be gratefully received by Mrs. Budmore Brown, 74, Thomas Street, Dublin, or by, Yours faithfully,

Jane Cobden Unwin, Hon. Treas.
Barbara Tcheykovsky, Hon. Sec.

3, Adelphi Terrace, Strand.

PHYL

By CICELY HAMILTON.

SYNOPSIS.

John Ashburton Folliott has been invited to the Ponsonby's house ostensibly to shoot, but in reality because he is regarded by Mrs. Ponsonby as a suitable husband for her daughter Mabel, who, however, is already attached to another man. A friendship with the two children of the family brings him into contact with their governess, Phyllis Chester, and his visits to the schoolroom do much to brighten her lonely life. So far, the one deep affection of her life has been for her sister Cathy, who has drudged and battled to make a home for both.

Folliott's attitude towards Phyllis is kindly and sympathetic—but nothing more. He never dreams of falling in love with her. "Automatically, and as a matter of tradition, he placed women of Phyllis Chester's class outside the sphere of marriage with such as himself." At the same time he regards a governess as "a female essentially respectable." When he finds that, as a result of his visits to the schoolroom, Phyllis has lost her post—Mrs. Ponsonby suspecting a flirtation and being angry at the failure of her matrimonial schemes—he is much distressed, and feels that he owes her some sort of reparation.

An enquiry as to her plans for the future leads Phyllis to a passionate outburst against the dulness of her lot. "I often feel I could go to the devil, if I only knew the way" she finally exclaims, "Wish I did!"

This puts into Folliott's head the idea of taking Phyllis abroad and giving her a taste of the brighter side of life. After a little hesitation Phyllis accepts his offer. "You are the only person" she said at last "who has ever been good to me—barring Cathy."

They meet in London, do some shopping, dine at an hotel, and take the night boat for Calais. Phyllis feels no pricks of conscience—the only thing that mars her enjoyment of Folliott's liking and protection and the novelty of travel is the thought of Cathy. But Folliott finds that, for all her light-heartedness, she does sometimes trouble about the time when he will have "had enough of her."

The situation is complicated by the arrival of the Ponsonby family at the same hotel. Folliott would have preferred to allow Mrs. Ponsonby to think that Phyllis was his wife; but Phyllis will not make any pretence, as she does not wish it "to be awkward for him" later on. He is surprised and somewhat shocked that she takes the contretemps so lightly. They decide to go on to Genoa.

Phyllis writes to her sister Cathy, for the first time giving her address. Cathy, regarding the letter as "a summons and a cry for help," sets out at once for Genoa to bring Phyl home, but, to her distress and bewilderment, finds her unrepentant and determined to persist in her mode of life.

AS she spoke, there grew clear to Cathy what she had dimly feared from the moment she entered the room. She saw that the Phyl with whom she had to deal was a Phyl she had not known before—a girl intoxicated by her first long draught of pleasure. That was an experience she, herself, had never known, and never now would know; but she was woman enough and toiler enough to realise what it meant to a girl released from drudgery without prospect, to grasp the strength of the defences she was seeking to attack and turn. Only one thing gave her courage: the certainty, the high and absolute certainty, that what she had to offer to Phyl was more blessed than the choice that her sister had made for herself. That, in the end, the sinner would be brought to see, since the higher *was* higher, and could not in the end be denied. When Phyl saw it . . . and she must make her see it. She stood with her thin hands clutched together, praying for guidance to fight her battle rightly. She had never possessed Phyl's fluency of tongue; words did not come easily to her, and she felt how inadequate they sounded when they came.

"You are making it very difficult," she stumbled, "very difficult indeed, for me to say—what I came to say."

"I'm more than delighted to hear it," her sister answered readily. "I want to make it not only difficult, but impossible for you to say what you came to say. Quite impossible. Anything else—I'll hear anything else you want to talk about. But not that."

"Phyl, I must——"

"No; you mustn't, you mustn't, you mustn't!" There was a red spot on each of her cheeks, and, for the first time in all her life, she looked at her sister with eyes that shone with anger. Perhaps she felt it there and was ashamed of it; at any rate, she pulled herself up, pressed her lips together for an instant, and half turned away. "Besides," she went on, still irritably but less angrily, "what would be the good if I did let you? Haven't you the sense to see that for yourself? When the prodigal is wallowing in the fleshpots of Egypt, where's the good of trying to tempt her home with very cold veal? None—absolutely none!"

And she flung herself down on the chair by the writing-table and, seizing her pen, made impatient, unconscious scratches on the sheet of blotting-paper.

"Can't you see that for yourself?" she repeated.

Her anger had come like a blow in the face to Cathy and, for the moment, it had stunned her, as a blow does stun. There was not only pain, there was bewilderment in her answer.

"You've never spoken to me like this before."

"I've never had occasion to," Phyl retorted sharply; but the words were hardly out of her mouth when remorse overwhelmed her. She rose to her feet, made a step towards Cathy, and stretched out a hand impulsively. "Now, don't, don't be tiresome! We've never had a real quarrel, you and I, and surely you don't want to begin one now. Sit down, you dear old goose, sit down when I tell you." She had Cathy round the shoulders now, and was pushing her back on to the sofa. "You must be fagged out."

"I am—tired," Cathy gulped. Phyl's sudden tenderness unstrung her, and brought a lump to her throat.

"Of course you are," her sister rattled on. "Of course you are—after chasing me thousands of miles." She was down on her knees by Cathy's side, holding her hands in her own. "You silly old

thing—wearing yourself out like that. . . . Now, kiss me, ridiculous person."

With a sob Cathy's arms went out and round her sister; she held her, she clung to her, and her wet cheek went down upon Phyl's shoulder. Phyl, with her own tears not far off, soothed her, and stroked her, as she might have soothed a child.

"There, there, there; now what did I tell you? Didn't I say you only wanted an excuse to weep on my neck? Didn't I say so?"

Cathy lifted her head, and dabbed her poor eyes with a handkerchief.

"If only—if only you wouldn't laugh at me."

"I'm not laughing at you," Phyl assured her, still stroking her hands and petting her. "I believe I'm trying not to cry at you. There"—she had the pins out of Cathy's hat, and was arranging her rumpled hair—"and let me put your tie straight—it's right under your ear, and the rakish style doesn't suit you a bit. Do you know, you look as if you'd be all the better for a thorough brush-up."

"Yes," Cathy admitted, humbly; "I'm afraid I'm not very tidy. But I didn't think about it—I was so anxious to see you——"

"When did you get here?" Phyl interrupted her hastily, afraid lest the conversation might be veering back to the undesired quarter. To prevent it, she put question after question about the journey—when had Cathy started; by what route had she travelled; how long had it taken her; was the train very crowded?

"And you've come straight through from London without having a rest anywhere," she finished up, shaking her head. "That was naughty of you, Cathy—really naughty. . . . And how much has it cost you—the journey?"

Cathy told her the amount—seven pounds and odd shillings.

"That doesn't matter," she added huskily, "if only——"

"It does matter," Phyl cut her short with firmness. "I'm not going to let you spend all your poor savings on me. I shall pay it back, every penny."

A dull red mounted into Cathy's cheeks. She did not look at Phyl—she looked away from her—but her voice, when she spoke, was still firmer than her sister's.

"No; I can't let you pay it back."

Phyl reddened too, and for a moment sheer discomfort held her silent. For the first time since she had turned her back on respectability she was face to face with the thing she had been afraid of—the sense of shame. Mrs. Ponsonby had looked at her with horror and contempt, and she, on her side, had felt nothing but amusement and defiance. But this horror of Cathy's was something utterly different. Horror of sin it was—but it had no power to weaken love for the sinner. . . . And that was why it hurt.

It was with an effort that she pulled herself together. The wisest—the only—plan was to ignore Cathy's words, and all that they implied. She rose from her knees determined to be cheery and commonplace.

"Now," she announced, "you must have your tea, and something to eat—something nice. I expect you've been starving yourself on the journey." And she was half way to the bell again when Cathy started up

"Phyl, you mustn't think I'm going to let you talk me over."

Phyl shook herself impatiently, and sighed.

"I don't want anything," Cathy persisted. "I couldn't eat anything. I came to beg you——"

Phyl thrust a hand through her hair, and faced round on her sister, half laughing and half irritated.

"Oh, please, don't begin to be tiresome again. I was so hoping I'd calmed you down for good. Haven't I told you already that I'm not going to let you talk to me in the sort of useless, well-meaning way you want to talk? Now"—she lifted a threatening finger as she saw Cathy's lips ready to open—"now, I give you fair warning, that if you begin to be emotional again, I shall stop up my ears like the adder and sing—loudly. I'm not going to let you spoil my entire evening with your conscientious scruples; so make up your mind to that. I'm exceedingly happy and comfortable, and not in the least in the humour for a lecture on the awful consequences of straying from the paths of virtue—besides, as far as my experience goes, the consequences aren't nearly so awful as you've been led to believe. So please don't let us have any more fuss. I won't insist on the tea, if you are really set on doing without it—and after all, it's getting on for dinner-time."

If she had hoped to silence her sister by her mixture of fluency and flippancy, she had hoped in vain. As soon as she paused for breath, Cathy went on her way doggedly.

"You say you're happy?" she asked.

"I do," Phyl returned; "I say it with emphasis. Delightfully—gorgeously happy."

"I can't believe it."

"Can't you, really?" her sister retorted ironically. "Still, you must admit that I'm in a rather better position than you are to judge of my own feelings. I assure you, it's quite a nice sensation—being happy. I find I rather like it—and all the more because I'm fairly new to it." Then, seeing that Cathy was only waiting till she finished, she raised her hands to her ears. "If you say one other word, I shall begin 'God Save the King,' and keep on at it till you stop."

Cathy's face grew red and went pale; and then, without a word, she walked towards the door. Something in the look of the bent retreating shoulders sent a rush of shame through Phyl. Her hands dropped quickly from her ears, and she called out sharply:—

"What are you doing?"

"If you won't hear what I've got to say to you . . . what is the use of my staying any longer?"

"Do you mean that you are going back—to England?" Phyl asked her.

"Yes." Cathy's eyes were blind with tears, and she did not turn her head. Phyl flung out her arms with a gesture of despair that was angry as well as amused.

"Well, of all the pig-headed. . . . I give it up; but I tell you, Cathy, it's abominably unfair. As if I could let you go like that—as if I could. You know perfectly well I can't, and you're taking a mean advantage of me. Upon my word, I could shake you. For sheer, dogged, uncomfortable persistence in well-doing, I have yet to meet your equal. . . . Well, have your own way—I've given in. The discourse can now commence. Strike up—I'm listening with all my ears."

And she flung herself down on the sofa, folded her arms, and shut her eyes resignedly. She could have chosen no better way of closing her sister's mouth. Cathy looked at her hopelessly—at the shut eyes at the set, obstinate lips—and the words she was longing to speak died away in her throat. Her lips moved once or twice, but nothing came from them. And at last Phyl opened her eyes.

"Well," she demanded, "and what are you waiting for now? You've got *carte blanche* to say whatever you like. Full steam ahead, and let's get it over."

"How can I?" Cathy stammered huskily.

"You really are an unreasonable person," her sister went on remorselessly. "Two minutes ago you were dying to launch out into a sermon—your only trouble was that you couldn't get your congregation to listen. Now, when I tell you to fire away, you stand with your mouth shut, as mute as a cod-fish. . . . You must really make a start soon, or Jack will be turning up—he has only gone out for a stroll. Can't you even think of a beginning?"

She knew she was cruel, but something within her made her pitiless; a something that, perhaps, little as she would have acknowledged it, was fear—that impulse and motive power of cruelty. Fear, subtle and undefined; fear, not of Cathy, but of what Cathy was and stood for.

"Let me remind you," she taunted, "that the subject of your discourse is the woman taken in adultery. I'm sure you must have lots of interesting things to say about it—and whenever you're hipped for a remark, you have only to throw in a few allusions to my immortal soul. You needn't be afraid of hurting my feelings. Speak out—I shan't mind in the very least."

By the time she paused to draw breath, her sister was more mistress of herself; the novelty of the attack had worn off. Phyl's irony and flippancy she passed without comment; she only asked quietly, steadily—

"I want to know what has made you do this thing?"

Phyl raised her eyebrows.

"It seems to me that's outside the bargain. I allowed you a sermon, and now you're starting on a catechism. Still, if you really are anxious to know, I have no particular objection to telling you. It seems to me that dullness had a great deal to do with it—sheer, unmitigated, unvariegated dullness."

"And you think—that is an excuse?"

"Well, it may sound odd to you," Phyl caught her up, "but I do. In fact, I can hardly imagine a better one."

"Then because you were dull," Cathy went on patiently, "you have stifled your conscience and given yourself to this man who tempted you——"

"Now there," Phyl broke in, "I really must protest. You can say what you like about me, but I'm not going to let you be unjust to poor old Jack. He didn't tempt me."

"He didn't?"

"No—not until I'd egged him on to it. If there was any tempting at all about the business, it was I who did it."

To her neck and the roots of her hair Cathy reddened. She did not believe what Phyl said; but it hurt her beyond measure that, even in jest or in anger, the girl should accuse herself of immodesty. Phyl saw in her face both her pain and disbelief, and hurried recklessly on.

"My dear soul, if you will insist on putting these awkward questions, you mustn't look shocked when you get truthful answers. Jack has been perfectly fair and straight with me——"

"You call it fair and straight?"

"I do—and please don't interrupt me when I'm trying to explain things to you. When I say that he was fair and straight with me, I mean that he never pretended to care for me in the way—in the way that a man cares for a woman he wants to make his wife. He never for one instant led me to believe that."

"Do you mean," Cathy asked her, "that he never—respected you?"

"No, not that either," Phyl retorted. "I mean that he was sorry for me because he saw how miserable I was—and lonely. So he offered—he told me that he would give me a good time, and that I—could trust myself to him. And I believed him—I believe him still—and he is giving me a good time. . . . So that is how we stand."

(To be continued.)

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ALL BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS *to be addressed to The Manager*, THE COMMON CAUSE, 2, *Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C., and all* ADVERTISEMENTS *must reach the Office not later than first post on Wednesday.*

NOTICE.—*This paper is obtainable at newsagents and bookstalls by midday on Friday. If any difficulty is found in obtaining it locally, please communicate with The Manager*, THE COMMON CAUSE, 2, *Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.*

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies being a body which exists solely to obtain the enfranchisement of women, holds no official view upon any other topic. Opinions expressed upon other subjects must not be regarded as necessarily those of the Union.

1913.

Achievements Abroad.

"Not through eastern windows only
When daylight comes, comes in the light.
In front the sun climbs slow—how slowly!
But westward, look, the land is bright."

The advance of the Woman's Movement in the United Kingdom was recorded by us last week, and has been very marked. Abroad there is yet greater reason for encouragement.

Mrs. Chapman Catt reminded us last June that the question of Women's Suffrage has been considered in seventeen national Parliaments during the past winter, and in thirty-three States and other legislatures. China has been admitted to the International Alliance, and even Persia now has a progressive movement. Of the enfranchised countries, Australia, California, Norway, Oregon, and Washington sent official government representatives to the Congress, and during the Session, news was received that Norway had obtained her full equal Suffrage rights. The Territory of Alaska has to be added to the list, and in June Illinois obtained enfranchisement on the same terms as men. Since then, progress in other States has been considerable, but the most important event has been the attempt to secure Women's Suffrage by Federal instead of State action. On April 7th a Bill was introduced in both Houses of Congress to amend the Constitution of the United States, so as to prevent any citizen from being deprived of the franchise on account of sex. In June this Bill was favourably reported on by the Senate Commission on Women's Suffrage, but it has not yet been voted on either by the Senate or the House of Representatives.

Since the International Congress India has founded her first Women's Suffrage Society, affiliated to the National Union. The Althing in Iceland has again passed the amendment to the Constitution granting the vote to women on the same terms as men, and the Bill now awaits the sanction of the King of Denmark. This will be granted, if the Bill is confirmed by the newly elected Parliament next April. It is therefore practically certain that the women of Iceland will obtain equal suffrage next spring. On October 7th and 8th the Reform Bill in Denmark, including the enfranchisement of women, having passed its third reading in the Lower House, was read for the first time in the Upper Chamber. When Parliament opened in Holland, the Queen in her speech promised a Bill for amending the Constitution and granting equal suffrage rights to women. In Poland, the President of the Diet, when replying to a recent Suffrage deputation, stated that his new proposal for reform would include Women's Suffrage, though not eligibility. The situation in Sweden is very encouraging, and there is reason to believe that Swedish women will obtain their enfranchisement during 1914; while in Finland the Parliamentary elections last August resulted in an increase in the number of women Members of Parliament from fourteen to twenty-one.

But perhaps the fairest reason of all for hope and faith in ourselves and our great cause is to be found not in the nearness of victory in any country where the vote is yet to be won, but in those in which the vote, already won, is being used. Suffragists

have never regarded the franchise as an end in itself, but as a means to an end, and a symbol of a changed attitude towards women as a whole. They have always believed that men and women together could do something far better than either men or women can do alone. They have been accused, and are still accused, of a fantastic idealism, in believing this, and the absurdity of their hopes affords a cheap and easy sneer to every Anti-suffragist speaker, predicting sex-antagonism rather than sex-co-operation as a result of Women's Suffrage. The facts, however, are on the side of the idealists. From every country in which women are enfranchised comes the same testimony of a better understanding, a greater mutual respect, between women and men. What women have done with their votes has varied with varying conditions; but that the doing has produced not sex-antagonism, but harmony—this is the one unvarying factor.

We have dealt with the record of advance abroad rather fully in these columns throughout the past year, and only a few weeks ago published a list of the laws passed in American Suffrage States since women were enfranchised. We feel, however, that the most startling evidence of the drift of public opinion is to be found not in THE COMMON CAUSE, but in the *Times*. It is, we believe, a fact that when the *Times* was founded, its title showed its intention of going "with the times." It was to represent the point of view of the party in office, and be as nearly as possible, the "official organ" of the Government. If this legend be true, it has at least ceased to be so with regard to party questions; but we welcome the apparent inclination of the *Times* to accept the changing position with regard to Women's Suffrage. Our "Special Supplement" of work done by women voters in American Suffrage States is a trite and simple catalogue compared with what might well be called the Special Suffrage Supplement of the *Times*. On the last day of the year 1913, it published a "Pacific Coast Supplement," in which appears one of the most generous and well-informed appreciations of women's work for the State that we have ever had the pleasure of reading. Such testimony, coming from a paper whose policy has hitherto been one of opposition to Women's Suffrage, will carry enlightenment to those who never read a Suffrage paper. Even Mr. Asquith, as Mrs. Fawcett observes in her letter to the *Times* (January 2nd), may, perhaps, sometimes dip into its columns—and read, and suffer conversion! Nor can we doubt that if the article be, as its writer suggests, "not only in this edition, but placarded through the press," it will indeed be "an encouragement to all women who work for liberty, equality, and fraternity."

We have all heard of the "re-call" of a corrupt mayor by the electors of Seattle, and chiefly by those electors who were women but recently armed with the vote. "These women crusaders," says the *Times*, "stood at their posts, resisting all influence for evil, which came to them in insidious and appealing importunities, until they had won their fight, which was their first battle after their admission to the rights and privileges of the male voter . . . The women of Seattle . . . have evinced in many encounters that the sling-shot of David still survives in the small hands of the really great."

From California the witness is the same. "A few years ago, the saloon was the dominant power in local politics in this State, but I think I see unmistakable signs that this power is passing, and I attribute this largely to the influence of women as voters. . . . Local officials are beginning to see that political power is shifting to the better element." Those are the words of Mr. William Morrow, Judge of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals. The comment of the *Times*' correspondent on this and the record of laws passed in California is—"The women of the Suffrage States care not only for their own children, but for the children of other women not so fortunately placed." But it is interesting to learn that the laws on which this verdict is based "had been subjects of petition for years by the women. The very first Legislature after equal suffrage passed them—most of them without debate or a dissenting vote—thus showing the difference between that indirect influence which politicians tell the women is as valuable as a vote, and the real power of the ballot."

The year that has just begun finds the Suffrage cause in Great Britain in a position of political difficulty, and this political difficulty must make the work of Suffragists in some ways very hard. There is no longer a Bill immediately before us to work for, and the stimulus of such an immediate hope has gone. To many of us, desiring with an intensity that makes words seem more than usually barren, to turn to work for other causes—for purity, for temperance, for education, for better conditions of life—this long drawn-out struggle, only to get the instrument of reform, only to remove an initial injustice, seems sometimes baffling and wearisome past endurance. Especially must this be the case with isolated workers who, out of the main stream of Suffragist enthusiasm and activity, know all the weariness and chill of an almost impossible endeavour, wonder sometimes whether there is such a tremendous "main stream" after all, and find in the New Year not so much the coming of a fresh hope as the reminder of another disappointment. That none of us will yield to this discouragement we well believe, for—as one wrote to us the other day—"there is something in Suffrage work that keeps us at it, even when we are most tired of it"; but discouragement itself will disappear when we realise what women are actually doing with the vote, and with what vigour, and what success, even with the eyes of a critical world fixed upon them, the problems we long to attack here, are there being actually dealt with. "How shall we feel," said one British Suffragist to another, "when we have really got the vote?" And the other replied, half-laughing: "Then shall we be like unto them that dream." But these women are making their dreams come true. And every effort made now by us, every refusal to admit discouragement, every fresh sacrifice cast into the scale, brings nearer the realisation of our dream also. To work then will be comparatively easy; but to us belongs the high honour of the harder task, and, whenever victory comes, however well earned, we shall perhaps find it in our hearts to wish we could "suffer it all over again, and suffer it better."

The Cry of the Children.

Ill-Health in Public Elementary Schools.

[In this and following weeks, articles on the need for better protection of all women's interests will appear in THE COMMON CAUSE. *We leave the writers perfectly free to expound facts and suggest remedies, but* IN NO CASE *does the N.U.W.S.S. take responsibility for the views set forward in signed articles. Our object is to provide a platform for free discussion.]*

The report lately issued by the Chief Medical Officer of the Board of Education, reveals an alarming amount of disease among children in our Public Elementary Schools, but shows that good work is being done in the direction of amelioration, and gives ground for hope that a marked improvement in the health of the nation may be brought about in the near future.

Medical inspection of school children has only been in force for six years, and in that time one cannot expect any very noticeable change. Time has been needed for the local education authorities to create the necessary machinery, and to connect this up with existing agencies for the public health. But it is satisfactory to learn that more is being done each year in the way of "following up" the cases of children found to be ailing, and in providing the necessary treatment. For example (to quote Sir George Newman's report):—

"The London County Council have now provided for the treatment of 84,000 children per annum; many thousands of children are receiving treatment in hospitals and by private practitioners in all parts of the country; and there are in existence upwards of 140 school clinics. . . . Further, it must not be forgotten that there are upwards of 350 special schools for blind, deaf, and physically and mentally defective children, in addition to various sanatorium schools. There is also now in working a national system of physical training, which is, or will soon be, a preventive measure of substantial value."

In addition to increased efficiency in the routine work of inspection and "following up," Sir George Newman mentions as a hopeful sign the "fuller differentiation of abnormal children, and a tendency on the part of the authorities to modify the school curriculum in their behalf." He deals in separate chapters with tuberculous children, epileptics, blind, deaf, and physically defective children, and the mentally abnormal, showing how thousands who, a short time ago, would have been regarded as hopelessly incapacitated from earning a livelihood are being made into self-supporting citizens by careful training.

The work at present being carried on constitutes, however, only a small fraction of that which remains to be done. More special schools of various types are needed, more school clinics, and greater endeavour on the part of parents, many of whom are culpably negligent, while others are ignorant and inefficient.

"Speaking generally," states the report, "out of six million children registered on the books of the Public Elementary Schools of England and Wales, about 10 per cent. suffer from serious defects of vision, from 1 to 3 per cent. suffer from defective hearing, 1 to 3 per cent. have suppurating ears, about 10 per cent. have adenoids, inflamed tonsils, or enlarged cervical glands requiring surgical treatment, about 1 per cent. have ringworm, 1 per cent. suffer from tuberculosis of readily recognisable form, from 1 to 2 per cent. are affected with heart disease, from 30 to 40 per cent. have unclean heads or bodies, and probably more than half the children are in need of dental treatment. . . . These percentages exclude children invalided from school; the blind, deaf, crippled, mentally defective and epileptic; all cases of infectious diseases, and that group of children who are suffering from indefinable malnutrition, debility and low vitality, and who number not less than half a million."

These figures bring home to us the seriousness of the problem

of national health. Apart from the weakness and pain from which so large a proportion of children are found to be suffering, there is the question of future efficiency. For, as the report points out, it must be remembered that "this extent of child disease means an increase to the national burden of sickness and disablement in adolescence and adult life." By connecting up the work of Medical Inspection with that of the Juvenile Employment Sub-committees, it is hoped to prevent children from drifting into employments for which they are specially unfitted by their state of health or physical peculiarities. It is necessary, too, to prevent the half-time employment of children where this is found detrimental to health—as it usually is.

Vol. X. of the Census Returns—which deals with occupations and industries—shows that a large number of children are employed out of school hours, many of them in very fatiguing occupations. 21,580 boys and 10,243 girls between the ages of ten and thirteen are returned as engaged in work, and 75,561 boys and 39,033 girls between the ages of thirteen and fourteen.

Textile industries employ the largest number of young girls; 8,833 between the ages of ten and thirteen, 19,948 of thirteen, and 30,617 of fourteen. Two girls and three boys of ten, and eleven girls and six boys between ten and thirteen are engaged in making explosives. Fifty-five boys and twenty-one girls of ten are engaged as street hawkers, and 4,637 boys and 22 girls between the ages of ten and thirteen are newspaper sellers. These are only a few examples out of many, which point to the need for further restrictive legislation.

The question of dealing with the thousands of children who are each year leaving school in a condition quite unfit for work is as pressing as it is complicated. Sir George Newman lays great stress in his report upon preventive measures, and urges the need for schools for mothers, the teaching of "mother-craft" in schools, and the medical supervision of children under school-age—questions which have already been dealt with in THE COMMON CAUSE. The chapter devoted to children under school-age is extremely interesting. So, too, is the chapter on the feeding of necessitous school children, which pleads for a "wide view," and a carefully considered scheme, in order that the effects on the physical, intellectual, and social welfare of the child may be "profound and lasting." Where the work is regarded merely as temporary relief, to be administered as cheaply as possible and only in cases of extreme poverty, the Board of Education are strongly of the opinion that the benefits derived are "insignificant and transitory." School medical inspection reveals an alarming amount of malnutrition, and as this is the cause of a great deal of the ill-health among children the importance of providing adequate food, without undermining parental responsibility, can scarcely be over-estimated.

With regard to the feeble-minded, Sir George maintains that special day-schools of the type already in being are appropriate only for some 40 per cent. of feeble-minded children, and that suitable residential schools or farm colonies should be provided for the remaining 60 per cent. By special manual and industrial training, and the provision of effective after-care, a certain proportion of the mentally defective can be fitted to earn their own living. But for many, custodial care in residential institutions is essential both in their own interests and those of the community.

A close study of this report may be recommended to any girl who is anxious to do something for the public service, but has had no special training or experience, such as is required for a position of responsibility. Among other simple occupations may be mentioned helping to serve school dinners, or look after the children at meal time, and playing the piano for physical exercises or dancing. "It is not easy," says the report, in commenting on the importance of music in connection with physical training, "to secure a pianist capable of playing the correct music in proper time." The need for women's services on Care Committees has been dealt with already in THE COMMON CAUSE.

As regards paid services, the part which women are playing in the work of school hygiene is not as large as it ought to be. The work of the school nurses—to which high tribute is paid in the report—will no doubt be largely increased, but at present nurses and health visitors only number some 700, as compared with 1,000 school doctors, and of the latter only 82 are women—to whom, surely, the duties are specially fitted. There should, too, be an opening for clerical work in connection with inspection and after-care. At present this often constitutes an unfair burden to the teacher, who is in many cases already overworked. A school secretary could also supervise the provision of meals, and organise voluntary helpers.

M. MEREDITH.

NORTH-EAST DURHAM BY-ELECTION.

Candidates: **G. H. Stuart,** *Labour.*
Aneurin Williams, *Liberal.*
J. O. Hardicker, *Conservative.*

Organiser in Charge: Miss C. M. Gordon.

Address: 013, Front Street, Consett.

Speakers and Workers: Miss Margaret Robertson, Mrs. Annot Robinson, Mrs. Chew, Miss Pressley-Smith, Mrs. Oldham, Miss Dring, Miss St. John, Miss Sheard, Miss Beaver, Miss Edie Westwood, Miss Ella Westwood, Miss Howarth.

We are anticipating an exciting fight. Although there has never been a Labour candidate here before, Labour is strong in this division. There are a good many active I.L.P. branches, and much propaganda work has been done. Accordingly, directly there was rumour of a by-election, Mr. G. H. Stuart, of the Postmen's Federation, was invited down to the constituency, where he held a successful campaign, assisted by Mr. Fenner Brockway, Dr. Ethel Williams, and Miss C. M. Gordon. After this his postal duties re-claimed him, but he is now once more in the division and is opening his election campaign on Wednesday, assisted by Miss Pressley-Smith.

The constituency is an essentially "Labour" one—of the 20,000 electors the vast majority are miners and iron-workers. The Liberals are assiduously trying to spread the idea that Mr. Stuart will not get the support of the miners because he is not a representative of their Federation, but he is already backed by many of the miners' lodges, and the platform support which he will get from the miners' leaders will establish his position as their man, beyond a doubt.

The N.U.W.S.S. has decided, from its experience in other E.F.F. fights, not to open committee-rooms in the division, but to scatter its workers about in various centres, whence they can canvass and arrange meetings. A house has been taken (for organisers) on the outskirts of the division, which requires furnishing (see advertisement). Please help!

S. BUCKS BY-ELECTION.

Organiser in Charge: Miss Dora Mason, Ulverscroft, High Wycombe.

The Liberals are preparing to contest the seat made vacant by the elevation to the peerage of Sir Alfred Cripps (Unionist), who was returned unopposed in 1910. The prospective Liberal candidate, Lieut.-Col. Hobart, is said to be a Suffragist.

At the time of going to press, the Unionist candidate has not yet been adopted.

In order that the division, which consists largely of villages with no train communication, may be effectively worked, a large supply of workers, money, and motor cars will be needed. Offers of help will be gladly received by the Organiser in Charge.

SELLING "THE COMMON CAUSE."

Volunteers are wanted this week, especially on Friday and Saturday, at the meetings of the English Association at University College, Gower Street. The meeting on Friday will be in the afternoon; that on Saturday in the morning.

LABOUR SUPPORT FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

The Liverpool Society organised a very successful meeting in the Picton Hall on Tuesday, January 6th. The Trades and Labour Council, sixteen Trade Unions, the Independent Labour Party, and all branches of the Co-operative Guild sent delegates, the audience amounting to over 1,000 persons. Sir Benjamin Johnson, leader of the Liberal Party, took the chair, and assured the audience of his great sympathy with the movement. The speaker of the evening was Mrs. Philip Snowden, who seconded a resolution, proposed by the Chairman, calling upon the Government to introduce a measure enfranchising women. Mrs. Snowden, who spoke from an ethical rather than a practical standpoint, held her audience spellbound and evoked much applause. A second resolution, thanking the Trade Unionists for their support and urging them to fresh efforts, was proposed by Miss C. Leadley Brown, and seconded by the Rev. V. S. Ellis. Miss Leadley Brown mentioned that in Liverpool forty-one trade unions or branches of unions had passed urgent Suffrage resolutions during the past three months. The vote of thanks to the Chairman and Mrs. Snowden was proposed by Miss Eleanor Rathbone and seconded by Rev Donald Fraser. About seventy Friends of Women's Suffrage Cards were signed, and THE COMMON CAUSE was sold out. A pleasing feature of the meeting was that £1 6s. 6d. was obtained by the sale of pamphlets. The large and attentive audience bore testimony to the sympathy which is felt for Women's Suffrage in the City of Liverpool.

Woman's Kingdom.

Why Not?

The National Union has decided to organise a Women's Exhibition. It has all happened rather quickly, for I am sure nothing was further from the thoughts of the Executive three months ago. This is how it has come about. The *Daily News and Leader* promoted a **Children's Welfare Exhibition** in the Christmas holidays of 1912, and this was such a success that they arranged to repeat the venture at Easter this year. Then, quite recently, somebody had an inspiration. Why not have a self-contained Women's Section—an exhibition within an exhibition, devoted to women's interests? But who would be capable of financing and organising such an exhibition in a manner calculated to make it a success? Another inspiration supplied the answer—the NATIONAL UNION. As it happened, somebody with an ambitious mind had already conceived the notion of Suffragists holding a really big Women's Exhibition at Olympia, and had laid the suggestion before the National Union Executive. So the idea was not altogether new to them when the *Daily News* made a definite offer to the N.U., which was to be taken or left before the close of the year. It was not easy to come to a decision in such a hurry; but since the Children's Welfare Exhibition opens on April 11th, and as it had only occurred to its promoters in November last to ask the N.U. if it would rent space and organise a Women's Section, it was a case of Hobson's choice. What made it more difficult was that such an offer necessarily had to be treated as confidential until it was either rejected or accepted. After due deliberation, it was accepted, the resolution to close with it conditionally having been moved by Mrs. Fawcett and unanimously agreed to by the Executive.

TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT.

The agreement, finally signed and delivered on December 31st, embodies an equitable business arrangement with the *Daily News, Ltd.*, whereby the National Union rents half the gallery at Olympia for the period of the Exhibition, with the right to erect a barrier and charge a separate entrance fee; to sub-let space under certain defined conditions governing the letting of space all through the Exhibition, and to issue a separate detailed catalogue, together with the privilege of using the Lecture Hall nightly, and the Concert Hall about twice weekly; besides securing to the National Union enterprise advantageous terms with regard to general publicity. Needless to add, the agreement was not signed and delivered until the entire estimated cost of the Women's Section had been fully guaranteed by a number of Suffragists sufficiently enthusiastic about the project to risk their money in promoting it. The word "risk" is used technically. It is estimated that the receipts from entrance fees and other sources will cover adequately the whole expenditure. The National Union itself has guaranteed the £400 required for organisation and management expenses, this sum representing approximately one-fourth of the whole amount to be expended; and the Executive has appointed myself Organiser, and Miss Longley Treasurer, and has provided an office at headquarters, where work began last Monday, January 5th.

GENERAL SCOPE AND SPECIAL FEATURES.

The title chosen for this exhibition within an exhibition is WOMAN'S KINGDOM—embodying the idea that Woman's Kingdom is centred in the Home, and thus in Children's Welfare, but extends far beyond the home, to the utmost limits of human experience and endeavour. Here are some of the proposed features of the Exhibition, as sketched in outline:—

Women in the Arts.
Women in Industry. (With a Sweated Industries Section).
Women in the Professions.
Nursing: Before and after Florence Nightingale.
Women in the Sciences.
Women in Business.
Women in Idleness.
Women's Work Simplified: Labour and Time-Saving Devices.
Home Arts and Crafts: Showing Women at Work in Model Workshops.
Women's Dress, including an Exhibition of Fashion's Freaks, and Examples of Modern Tendencies towards More Artistic and Hygienic Costume.
Women's Homes.
A Cookery Section.
A Babies' Needs Section.
A Servants' Registry Bureau.
Women's Suffrage in Practice.
A Mother's Rest Room.
A Kindergarten and Creche.
A Statistical Section.

There will possibly be sections also showing the history of punishments inflicted on women, and a Women's Inventions and Patents Section.

Under Women's Homes we hope to show (*a*) an Ideal Cottage (on ground floor), sensibly and inexpensively furnished by a simplification of women's-work enthusiast; (*b*) Working Women's Rooms, furnished artistically and cheaply; (*c*) a poor Woman Worker's Bed-sitting room, completely furnished for a five-pound note; (*d*) a Model Lodging House Bedroom; (*e*) a Woman's Outdoor Camp.

WHERE "COMMON CAUSE" READERS COME IN.

All these sections have to be organised by March 30th, when Olympia will be thrown open to exhibitors. *Who will help?* Readers of THE COMMON CAUSE who can lend exhibits, who can undertake sections, give their services either as section organising assistants now, or as volunteer workers during the Exhibition (which is open from April 11th—30th), are asked to lose no time in writing to me and telling me just what they will do to help.

WANTED—SIXPENCE FROM EVERYBODY FOR ADVERTISING.

Then I want money for advertising purposes. To be precise, I must have £200: I should like £350; and I could make a splendid show with £500. If every reader whose weekly income exceeds 19s. 11d. will send me a sixpenny Post Office Order, and those who have £2 a week will send me 1s. 6d.; those with £5, 2s. 6d.; those with £400 a year, 7s. 6d.; and those with over £500 a year will send £1, we shall be able to advertise this Women's Exhibition in such a way that it will prove the greatest popular success and the most convincing bit of propaganda work that the National Union has ever done.

A VOLUNTEER CORPS OF 200 COMMISSIONAIRES.

I want a corps of smart workers from the country, two hundred strong, to do the actual work of volunteer commissionaires and stall assistants, in two half-day shifts, during the entire fortnight and a half of the Exhibition; and I want two hundred members of the London Society—my own Society—to come forward and offer these workers hospitality in their homes from March 30th till April 30th. They would be out for half the day, and the other half they would be (I hope!) resting.

FOR THE HONOUR AND CREDIT OF THE NATIONAL UNION.

And I want everybody to write and tell me what they can do AT ONCE. We have secured the opportunity and found the money. We have pledged the credit of the National Union to see this thing through. It is up to the personal enterprise of our 45,000 members, and to the *esprit de corps* of the 400 odd Societies composing our Union, to come forward now with offers of personal service and make the show a success—the biggest concrete proof Great Britain and Ireland have yet had of the collective ability and achievements of Women as a Sex; and, incidentally, an object lesson in the value of educational and constitutional methods of agitation for the Vote.

The honour of the National Union is involved, and through the Union, of every individual unit in it. I plead guilty to having used all my powers of persuasion to induce our Executive thus to pledge the National Union's Honour—*because I believed in its latent energy*. If I may drop into slang—Let us Buck Up, and show what we can do!

VERA C. C. COLLUM.

"WOMAN'S KINGDOM" SELLING CORPS.

Special arrangements for selling and advertising THE COMMON CAUSE will be an important part of the work at Woman's Kingdom, and as the show is sure to bring an enormous number of sightseers to Olympia, we appeal to all London members of the N.U.W.S.S.—or members likely to be in London at the time—to enrol themselves at once as volunteer sellers. We ought to have hundreds of sellers along the road and in the Exhibition. Please keep some time free for selling the paper.

THE STEAD MEMORIAL FUND.

Further sums received:—

	s.	d.
P. Q. R.	2	6
Scarborough Society	1	0
Mrs. Stanbury	2	6

Contributions may be sent to Miss A. Maude Royden, 111, Bedford Court Mansions, W.C.

THE McLAREN MEMORIAL FUND.

P. Q. R.	2	6

Contributions may be sent to Mrs. Stanbury, 88, Westbourne Park Road, W.

"Problems of the Women's Movement."

A Series of **FOUR LECTURES** by

MISS LIND-AF-HAGEBY,

At the QUEEN'S (SMALL) HALL, LANGHAM PLACE, W.,

(SOLE LESSEES: MESSRS. CHAPPELL & CO. LTD.)

ON THURSDAY EVENINGS IN FEBRUARY:

Feb. 5th, at 8-15 p.m.—"Sex and Social Evolution."
" 12th, at 8-15 p.m.—"Psychological Aspects of the Struggle for the Franchise."
" 19th, at 8-15 p.m.—"The Genesis of the New Woman."
" 26th, at 8-15 p.m.—"Feminist Politics and the State."

TICKETS **1/-, 2/6** and **5/-** To be obtained at the Box-office, Queen's Hall, or The International Suffrage Shop, 11, Adam Street, Strand, W.C., or by letter, containing remittance, from Miss Schartau, 170, Piccadilly, W.

THE OLDEST and STILL *"The IDEAL PURE COCOA."*

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Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
President: MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.

Hon. Secretaries:
MISS K. D. COURTNEY.
MISS C. E. MARSHALL (Parliamentary).
MISS EMILY M. LEAF (Press).
MISS EVELYN ATKINSON (Literature).

Hon. Treasurer:
MRS. AUERBACH.

Secretary:
MISS CROOKENDEN.

Offices: Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.
Telegraphic Address—Voiceless, London. Telephone Number—1960 Victoria.

The Albert Hall Demonstration.

It has already been announced in THE COMMON CAUSE that the City of Glasgow will be represented at the Demonstration on February 14th by the Lord Provost and the Chief Magistrate. We expect many representatives of men's organisations to be present, but equally important is the attendance of individual men for whom special places will be reserved. We ask all men who are members of the National Union to apply to us for tickets (complimentary), and we appeal to all our members to send letters of invitation to the men they know who are Suffragists inviting them to come to the Albert Hall. A formal letter of invitation, signed by Mrs. Fawcett on behalf of the National Union, can be obtained from the Secretary, N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith-street. Applications for tickets are rapidly coming in, and seats should be booked at once to secure good places.

Press Report.

Mention was made in last week's COMMON CAUSE of the increased friendliness of the *Daily Telegraph*, and we are now glad to be able to announce that a special article on "Women in Public Life" will appear every Tuesday. We are sure that Suffragists will welcome very warmly this effort on the part of the *Daily Telegraph* to supply them with news of particular interest to women—a want which has been keenly felt and which has so far received scant recognition on the part of the Press in general, with some notable exceptions. Information showing the part which women have played in public life and in the administration of the law, cannot fail to be of value to the Suffrage cause, and the help which the *Daily Telegraph* is giving us is of the utmost importance and will commend itself to all Suffragists. Our members have already begun to look to this paper for reliable and full reports of Suffrage activities.

In the Special Pacific Coast Supplement of the *Times*, on December 31st, a splendid vindication of the wisdom and righteousness of enfranchising women appeared in the form of a series of articles showing the excellent work which women with the power of the vote behind them have done in America. Nothing could be a better answer to doubters who predict all manner of catastrophes if women are given votes, than this account of what has actually been done by them in the enfranchised States of America. The *Times* has rendered an invaluable service to the Suffrage cause in giving such a splendid record of the use made by voting women of their opportunities. After all, an ounce of fact is worth many pounds of theory, and we thank the *Times* heartily for giving to the public this testimony of the result of Women's Suffrage in being.

The *Yorkshire Observer* has inserted a short statement by Mrs. Fawcett, showing that instead of a "set-back" as stated by certain politicians, Woman Suffrage is receiving more and more support and has a stronger hold on the country than ever before.

The *Evening Standard and St. James's Gazette* has published a very excellent account of the National Union Educational Campaign scheme, and mentions briefly what has been done in enfranchised countries for the protection of women and children.

The *Pioneer* (India) is showing great fair-mindedness towards the Woman's Movement. For about two months in the summer it constantly had letters in, for and against the Suffrage, and a short time ago it published a *résumé* of the article "The New Chivalry," out of THE COMMON CAUSE.

Report of Literature Committee.

The addresses given at the Queen's Hall meetings on "The Religious Aspect of the Women's Movement" in June, 1913, had so large a sale that it has been decided to reprint them in a cheaper edition. The National Union has now undertaken the sale of the pamphlet, which can be obtained at 4d. The addresses are by Bishop Gore, Mrs. Creighton, Rev. Scott Lidgett, Dr. Willey, Rev. W. Temple, Miss A. Maude Royden, and others.

The National Union is stocking the following pamphlets: "Education and Race Regeneration," Sir John Gorst, price 6d. net; "Foreign Missions and the Women's Movement in the West," by Miss Ruth Rouse, who, it will be remembered, was one of the principal speakers at the Church Congress, price

3d. Mrs. Pember Reeves's book, "Round about a Pound a Week," is also being stocked, price 2s. 6d. net.

The January number of the Friends of Women's Suffrage quarterly leaflet is now for sale. The prices are ½d. per copy, 9d. per 25 copies, 2s. 6d. per 100, and £1 per 1,000.

Contributions to the General Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged since November 1st, 1913	431	10	1
Received, December 9th to January 5th, 1914:—			

Subscriptions.

Mrs. Minturn Scott	1	1	0
Miss M. B. Alder...	1	0	0
Miss Nancy Fleming		10	0
Hon. Mrs. Arthur Pelham ...		5	0
Mrs. Skirrow		2	6
Miss V. Garrard		1	0
Miss E. F. Stevenson		5	0
Miss M. Deneke		5	0
Mrs. Laurie		1	0
Miss Frances E. Newton ...	1	0	0
Miss Teasdel		1	0
Miss D. Matthews		2	6
Miss Julia Kennedy	2	2	0
Miss I. M. Oswald		2	0
Miss C. C. Lyon	2	2	0
Miss Evelyn Atkinson		5	0
Dr. Beatrice Webb	1	1	0
Mrs. Pennington	1	1	0
The Rev. Kenneth McMaster		10	0
Miss Edith C. Hervey	1	0	0
Mrs. Allan Bright	1	1	0
Miss H. J. Hartle	1	0	0
Mrs. James Ritchie		5	0
Mrs. Limond	1	1	0
Mrs. Fitzroy Hecht		5	0
Miss E. H. Vaughan Williams		1	0
Dr. Jane Walker	2	2	0
Miss E. M. Gunter	1	1	0

Subscription to Information Bureau.

Mrs. Rackham		10	6

Donations.

Anonymous, per Miss C. Comins	10	0	0
Mrs. Hinchley (A Christmas present)		2	6
Mrs. Percy Thompson (Organiser's Fund—In memory of Sidney Gilchrist Thomas) ...	5	0	0
Mrs. F. S. Tabor	5	0	0
Anonymous		2	6
Anonymous		2	6
Mrs. S. de Souza		1	0
Miss C. C. Lyon (for THE COMMON CAUSE)	1	1	0
Morecambe W.S.S.	1	1	0
Anonymous, per Miss E. Paxton (a Christmas present)		10	0
Miss Susan Gatliff (a Christmas present)	2	0	0
Miss E. Q. Henriques	1	1	0

Donations to Educational Campaign.

Miss D. Scott		5	0
Miss S. Wallis		5	0
The Right Hon. T. J. Macnamara	1	1	0
Mrs. Macnamara	1	1	0
Lord Henry Bentinck	1	0	0
Anonymous		2	6
Miss Auerbach		5	0
Mr. D. M. Mason, M.P.... ...	1	1	0
Sir Alfred Mond, M.P.	5	0	0
Miss Caroline Cadbury ...	1	0	0

Affiliation Fees.

Haddington W.S.S.		13	0
Farnham and District W.S.S....	1	6	0
Midhurst W.S.S.		8	0
Honiton W.S.S. (Entrance Fee)		2	6
Ashford W.S.S.		5	0
Carlisle W.S.S.	2	14	6
Hungerford W.S.S		7	0
North Berwick W.S.S. (additional)		1	3
Orcadian W.S.S.		18	0
Honiton W.S.S.		5	0
Keighley W.S.S.	1	2	6
Scarborough W.S.S.	2	18	0
Altrincham W.S.S.	1	18	9
Wokingham W.S.S.		18	6
	£502	13	7

Election Fighting Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged since November 1st, 1913	243	1	0
South Lanark By-Election Fund	205	19	0
Purley W.S.S.	3	0	0
Miss A. K. G. Macdonald ...	10	0	0
Miss P. G. Fawcett	5	0	0
From Sale of Bicycle, M. C. C.	5	0	0
Mrs. Todd (Quarterly Subscription)	13	0	

Special Campaigns.

Mrs. E. M. Preston	2	0	0
	£474	13	0

SECRETARIES AND CORRESPONDENTS PLEASE NOTE!

The following are the dates on which the reports of the various Federations are due to appear in the "C.C." They should be sent to the Sub-Editor, THE COMMON CAUSE, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, *not later than the Monday morning previous to the date of issue.* It is urgently requested that reports shall only be sent through the "C.C." correspondents, whose names and addresses are printed below.

First Friday in the Month:—

London Society: Correspondent, Miss Ward, London Society, 58, Victoria Street, S.W.
Manchester and District Federation: Mrs. J. E. Tomlinson, Byefield, Knutsford, Cheshire.
South-Western: Miss E. Mathieson, Otterbourne, Budleigh Salterton.
East Midland: Miss E. J. Sloane, M.A., 13, Welford Road, Leicester.
South Wales and Monmouth: Dr. Erie Evans, 23, Dumfries Place, Cardiff.

Second Friday:—

North-Western Federation: Miss A. Graham, 9, Vicarage Terrace, Kendal.
West Midland: Mrs. Harley, Condover House, near Shrewsbury.
Surrey, Sussex, and Hants.: Miss J. W. Powell, Munstead Rough, Godalming, Surrey.
Scottish: Miss Latta, 2, St. Andrew's Square, Edinburgh.
Bournemouth Society: Miss Kemp Turner, Calluna, 4, Westcliff Road, Bournemouth.

Third Friday:—

London Society: Correspondent, Miss Ward, London Society, 58, Victoria Street, S.W.
North and East Riding of Yorkshire Federation: Mrs. A. M. Daniel, 14, Royal Crescent, Scarborough.
West Lancs., West Cheshire, and North Wales: Miss E. F. McPherson, 16, Newland Drive, Liscard, Cheshire.
Oxford, Bucks., and Berks.: Miss L. C. Jones, Jesmond Hill, Pangbourne, Berks.

Fourth Friday:—

North-Eastern Federation: Dr. Mabel Campbell, 2, Graingerville, South, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Kentish: *Pro tem.*, Miss Mosely, 60, York Road, Tunbridge Wells.
West of England: Miss J. Baretti, 49, Royal York Crescent, Clifton, Bristol.
Eastern Counties: Miss E. Place, 24, Quilter Road, Felixstowe.
West Riding of Yorks.: Mrs. H. F. Hall, Oaklands, Collegiate Crescent, Sheffield.

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BURBERRY WEATHER PROOFS

1913 Model Top-coats and Gowns

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TWEED BURBERRYS in Choice Burberry Tweeds. Usual price, 4gns. **SALE PRICE, 42/-**

BURBERRYS, in Gabardine, fawn grey and green, lined proofed wool. Usual prices, 3 to 4gns. **SALE PRICE, 45/-**

URBITOR BURBERRYS. Smart town top-coats in extra warm coatings. For general use. Usual price, 4gns. **SALE PRICE, 42/-**

ULSTER BURBERRYS in Warm-without-Weight Ulsterings. Usual prices, 6 and 7 gns. **SALE PRICE, 63/-**

BURBERRY WALKING GOWNS in Saxony suitings and Serges. Usual prices, 9 and 10gns. **SALE PRICES, 4½gns. and 5gns.**

BURBERRY SPORTING GOWNS, in gamefeather and other Tweeds. Usual price 8 gns. **SALE PRICE, 84/-**

ODD SKIRTS in Tweeds. Usual prices, 4 & 5gns. **SALE PRICE 42/-**

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Urbitor, Burberry.

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Many colds can be avoided and real economy achieved if you pay the small extra cost of

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Ladies' Pyjamas in Cream, Sky and Pink Delaine. Women's size, 14/6 O.S. from 15/6

Jaeger Underwear and Outerwear has a world-wide reputation as the Standard Healthwear. It is guaranteed for Purity by the strictest chemical tests.

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456, Strand, W.C. — *115, Victoria St., S.W.*
30, Sloane St., S.W. — *85 & 86, Cheapside, E.C.*

A Jaeger Agent in every important town. Name and address on application.

INTERVIEW WITH A LEADER OF THE "FRIENDS OF SUFFRAGE" MOVEMENT.

"What does it mean to be a Friend of Suffrage?" I inquired of the inaugurator of the "Friends of Women's Suffrage Movement" in one of our large towns. The answer was "Simply this: everyone who signs the little card means that he or she is in favour of women having the vote. It pledges him to nothing, and involves no subscription. It is the first step—just an open acknowledgement that he sees the justice of the women's claim. Often at meetings many are moved to sympathy, but are not prepared to become members on the spot. They gladly sign as 'Friends,' and feel they have done something tangible in proof of their new convictions.

"But what good does this do?" "In the first place, it makes everyone think on the question, and make up his mind. Vague sympathies are changed into a definite decision. Once on the right side, further progress is generally a matter of time."

"What do you find the best way of obtaining these signatures?" "Well, say there is a public meeting, and speeches made on the subject of Suffrage. Stewards go round and also stand at the doors with cards, inviting signatures. We exhort each new 'Friend' to enlist other 'Friends.' We get their addresses, and thus at once a little nucleus is formed in different streets and suburbs. The next step is for someone who lives near to call upon the new 'Friends,' leave them literature, invite them to local meetings, and interest all who have any leisure to go about and gain other 'Friends.' All this makes a foundation on which a small society is soon built up, and one is surprised how many unexpected favourers of our Cause spring up on all sides.

"Do you find workers easily?" "That is a difficulty. Enthusiasm, that inward fire, is not always laid with good kindling-sticks! But there, again, come surprises, when the apparently weak and aimless develop an extraordinary pertinacity and power of influence. If people only knew how simple is our machinery and how welcomed we are by the many who are longing to know more of this movement, many who shrink from coming forward would gladly join our ranks. The workers begin by canvassing round their own homes; then small meetings are held, and the 'Friends' told of anything that is going on, and urged to attend the larger gatherings. Why—truth might be a weed, it spreads so fast! A house-to-house canvass is strongly recommended, a whole neighbourhood becomes interested, an atmosphere created. There are cottage meetings, most productive. Someone lends a room, the neighbours drop in, and a pleasant, colloquial address is sure to result in the signing of many cards. A most disagreeable but remunerative form of work is to wait outside big meetings and get the people as they come out to sign, and give them leaflets. The workers meet sometimes at the house of the head of any district, and discuss methods and experiences. This very simple propaganda can be carried on by everyone, without entailing a heavy burden on anybody. When one knows a small, sympathetic circle, nothing is easier than to keep it up. The *Friends' Leaflet*, published quarterly, is a capital thing to distribute, and its modest price of a halfpenny is not a bar to its circulation. Indeed, I find the *Leaflet* a most welcome thing, and the greatest help in visiting round. It gives a little excuse, and the prospect of having a monthly call, is welcomed by all."

"Do you consider this movement essential?" "Certainly, for it is impossible to get everyone to be a member (which means a subscription), and until our 'Friends' movement started, we could only judge of the number of our followers by the number of enrolled members. This 'Friends' movement is intended to record all who are on our side. The newspapers have boycotted us, but by this simple plan each Friend of Suffrage is, as it were, a walking newspaper, and by degrees all over England is spread a magic network of sympathy and interest."

THE PATHOS OF A RUMMAGE STALL.

Our Somersetshire village hoardings flamed with red, white, and green, announcing a "Suffrage Market"! Greatly daring, we had taken the "Assembly Rooms," and made the usual Suffragist heroic effort—our "Market" should be a success if we perished in the attempt. Some of us nearly did!

The day came, and the great hall made a brave show—for red, white, and green are fine colours. One stall marred the effect. Our President, a Quakeress, was responsible for a rummage stall confined to old clothes. Her people use plain, good clothes, and from them she begged remorselessly, with excellent results. The clothes were clean and decent, many had spare pieces in the pockets, and stockings were well darned; but it did not make a pretty show, though she festooned hats of many styles about it.

Long before the opening hour, working women began to arrive both from our village and those around. Soon the rummage stall was surrounded by a struggling mass of village women, almost fighting for a chance to buy the discarded garments of other people. They would look at nothing else in the room, and every article was cleared off the rummage stall as fast as the sellers could sell. The stall made £7.

Could anything be more pitiful than such a scene to a thoughtful Suffragist? Mr. Rowntree's book, "How the Labourer Lives," with its sad lists of household budgets, shows the absence of any dependable margin for clothing in many country homes, and the truth of his statements are rubbed home by watching sympathetically the scene round a rummage stall.

National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

GLASGOW SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Non-Party. Law-Abiding.

PUBLIC MEETING

IN

ST. ANDREW'S HALLS,

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5th, at 8 p.m.

Chair - Mrs. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.,
President N.U.W.S.S.

SPEAKERS:

Miss MAUDE ROYDEN,

W. H. DICKINSON, Esq., M.P.

Tickets may be had at the Suffrage Office, 202, Hope Street. Reserved and Numbered, 2s.; Reserved, 1s. and 6d. Also FREE TICKETS.

A REAL NATIONAL SERVICE.

An Institution dealing with Domestic Servants, and which will entirely overcome the present difficulty experienced by both ***EMPLOYER*** and ***EMPLOYEE,*** is about to be formed. The founder is prepared to negotiate with one or two ***BUSINESSLIKE LADIES*** with initiative, having capital of from £300-£1,000 for Investment, and who are prepared to take ***ACTIVE PART IN THE ADMINISTRATION.*** There are six salaried positions to be filled, ranging from £200 per annum, and will be given according to ***ABILITY WITH INVESTMENT.*** The nominal capital of the Institution will be about £3,000. The dividends on shares (over and above salary) are likely to be very substantial.

Applications, giving full particulars, should be addressed in first instance to ***"DOMESTICITY,"*** Box 2,219, COMMON CAUSE Office, when interviews with likely applicants will be arranged.

INDIAN TEA.

It is interesting to note how the consumption of Indian Tea is increasing through the world as people come more completely to realise its many virtues.

Indian Tea is justly famous, not only on account of its high quality and purity, but also because of the delicacy of its flavour, and the great tea-drinking public now know that teas which yield delicate light brews are just as much Indian as those which give a fuller flavoured infusion.

It is, we confess, pleasant to know that the British Empire stands supreme so far as this most popular of all beverages is concerned, for both the labour and capital involved are British, and the process of preparation is under the supervision of English experts.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS and mention THE COMMON CAUSE when ordering goods.

News from the Societies and Federations.

Correspondents are urged to send in their reports not later than the Monday morning (first post) before the date on which they are due to appear.

Surrey, Sussex, and Hants Federation.

EASTBOURNE.—On November 12th the Suffrage Club and Offices were opened at 134, Terminus Road. On the 19th Dr. Willoughby lectured there on "Infant Mortality, and Women's Work in connection therewith." Dr. Habgood took the chair, and there was a full report in the local paper.

EASTLEIGH.—On December 17th, the Committee entertained members and friends in the Council Chamber; Miss Norah O'Shea spoke on the political situation, and Mrs. Dempster addressed the unconverted. Several members joined, and of the rest, all but one became "Friends."

FARNHAM.—Disposed of twenty-three dozen copies of THE COMMON CAUSE in November, three dozen in December. On December 5th Mrs. Dempster spoke at Wrecclesham, obtaining several "Friends." On the 15th Mrs. Rackham addressed a Mothers' meeting and other women at Bourne Hall on "The Child and the State," a few "Friends" signing. That evening Mrs. J. Stevens held a reception in Miss Stevens's studio to meet her, because the public meeting arranged was cancelled owing to threats of disturbance, which the residents were not prepared to quell. Mrs. Rackham addressed the guests. Two study-circles met last month.

HASLEMERE.—Miss Penrose Philp lectured on "The Poor-Law Child," the rector in the chair, and Mr. Lewis on "Half-time Labour. Much interest was aroused. On November 21st the annual meeting was addressed by Rev. A. E. N. Simms, who dwelt on the need for honesty about militancy. The report showed a membership of 214, with 542 "Friends"; £114 had been raised. Further lectures, a study-circle, and a big public meeting in March are proposed.

PORTSMOUTH.—Captain St. John lectured on "The Delinquent Child" at the Southsea Suffrage Rooms on December 5th, at 3 and 8 p.m.

WOKING.—Lectures on "The Child and the State" took place on December 2nd, 8th, and 15th. Captain St. John (Hon. Secretary, Penal Reform League) gave the last on "The Probation System for Children," Mr. Broderick presiding. £1 12s. 2d. was collected; literature and THE COMMON CAUSE fetched 1s. 8d. Miss Stables gave a drawing-room meeting on December 4th, Mrs. Basset as Chairman. Miss Fielden spoke; 13s. 11d. was collected, £2 6s. 3d. taken for literature and cards, and 1s. 1d. for THE COMMON CAUSE. Ten members joined.

WORTHING.—Office meetings. On November 11th Miss Kirby (Women's Industrial Council) spoke on "Legislation for the Feeble-minded." Mrs. Chapman in the chair. Mrs. Thomas was hostess. On November 18th Mrs. Russell spoke delightfully on "Schools for Mothers." Mrs. Chapman in the chair. Miss Bowen was hostess. On the 25th Mrs. Mills Cawer (State Children's Association) spoke on "£1,000 Poor-Law Children: What to do with Them," Mrs Chapman again in the chair, Miss Carr was hostess. This series ended with a discussion meeting. Mrs. Chapman and Miss Coast addressed two "Friends'" meetings in November.

On December 20th a Christmas Fête was held at the Bedford Hall, including Christmas trees, a tango tea, competitions, "A Chat with Mrs. Chicky," acted by Mrs. Elborough and Mrs. Milbank-Smith, and beautiful dancing by the Misses Bevan, de Fresue Bergfield, and Baner.

North and East Riding.

SALTBURN-BY-THE-SEA.—The first of a proposed series of informal social gatherings for members, was, by kind invitation of Mrs. Alfred Hutchinson, held at Manesty on Friday evening December 5th. Very interesting papers were read by Miss Fox, Miss Crawshaw, and George Barnley, Esq., on "Housing Reform," "The Truck Act," and "The Legal Disabilities of Women." Discussion followed each paper, the members present were keenly interested, and the meeting may be considered an unqualified success.

South-Western Federation Report for December.

The annual meeting of the S.W. Federation of the N.U.W.S.S. was held on Monday, December 15th, at Dellar's Café, Exeter. The meeting was very well attended; many representatives of the more distant Devon and Cornwall branches being present. Exeter was, of course, well represented.

Mrs. Fletcher (Chairman) opened the proceedings with a brief review of the Suffrage Movement during the year 1913; the most prominent events being the defeat of the Dickinson Bill, and the great success of the Pilgrimage.

The reports of the Hon. Sec., Treasurer, and Press Secretary, and that of the Organiser (Miss Walford) were read, and some discussion took place on each.

The Federation is happy in having secured as Hon. Sec. Miss Mathieson, of Budleigh Salterton, to whom we owe so much for having obtained during the South-West portion of the Pilgrimage the services of Miss Helen Fraser as speaker. Miss Mathieson succeeds Mrs. Penry whose much regretted resignation was necessitated by the removal of Mr. Penry from Hele School to King Edward's School, Lytham. Mrs. Thomas of Sidmouth succeeds Mrs. Ross, who long and ably fulfilled the duties of Hon. Treasurer of the Federation, and we are very glad to accept her services, and welcome her as an officer of the Federation.

Meetings.

DARTMOUTH.—December 9th—Drawing-room meeting. Hostess, Mrs. Gregson—Chair, The Rev. Arkwright—Speaker, Miss Helen Fraser. No resolution was put, but several new members were enrolled. Some literature and copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold.

In the evening a public meeting was held in the town. Chair, Mr. Hayne-Smith—Speaker, Miss Helen Fraser. Resolution carried unanimously. Sale of literature and collection amounted to 10s. 6d. Result of the two meetings is the formation of a new branch of the N.U.W.S.S.

EXETER.—December 5th—Queen's Hall. Chair, Sir Robert Newman. Speakers, Mrs. Fawcett, LL.D., and Miss Helen Fraser. A large audience assembled to greet Mrs. Fawcett and Miss Fraser, both of whom were welcomed enthusiastically. Mrs. Fawcett made a most interesting speech and was followed by Miss Fraser, who made an eloquent appeal for justice to be done to women. A great many copies of THE COMMON CAUSE and some literature were sold, and a good collection was taken. Several new members were enrolled, and many "Friends" cards were signed.

EXMOUTH.—December 8th—King's Hall. Chair, Mrs. Percy Boulnois—Speaker, Miss Helen Fraser. The hall was fairly full; a number of men came in during the meeting. Miss Fraser was very well received, and her speech was listened to with great interest. At the end of the meeting a number of questions were asked which Miss Fraser answered very cleverly. Some new members and a number of "Friends" were enrolled, and a good collection taken. A resolution calling upon the Government to enfranchise women in some degree was carried.

PLYMOUTH.—December 9th—At the Guildhall an audience of 2,000 assembled to hear Mrs. Fawcett, LL.D. Chair, Dr. Howard Slater—Speakers, Mrs. Fawcett, Mrs. Beresford Leathes, and Waldorf Astor, Esq., M.P. It was Mr Astor's first appearance on a Suffrage platform. Many "Friends" cards were signed, eight new members joined the Society. £10 worth of tickets were sold, and the collection was over £6.

The following week a bazaar and concert held in aid of the funds was not very well attended but raised £8. An excellent musical programme was given by several ladies, and a "Chat with Mrs. Chicky" was very well acted.

SALTASH.—December 11th—Star Hall. Speaker, Miss Helen Fraser—Chair, Mrs. Waller.

SIDMOUTH.—December 6th—Manor Hall. Chair, Lady Lockyer—Speaker, Miss Helen Fraser.

TEIGNMOUTH.—December 10th—Town Hall. Chair, Rev. T. Barney—Speaker, Miss Helen Fraser.

TORQUAY.—December 10th—A crowded meeting was held at the Theatre Royal, many people being unable to find even standing room. Chair, the Rev. Canon Bevan—Speakers, Mrs. Fawcett, LL.D., and Miss Helen Fraser. Among those present were Admiral Sir William and Lady Acland, Lady Leith of Fyvie, H.S.H. Princess Salm, and Mr. and Mrs. C. Tweedale. Mrs. Fawcett and Miss Fraser were much applauded and a resolution demanding the enfranchisement of women was carried with only one dissentient. The collection amounted to £22, and 24 new members were made.

TRURO.—December 8th—Concert Hall. Chairman, Col. Courtenay Vyvyan, C.B.—Speakers, Mrs. Fawcett, LL.D., and Miss Geraldine Cooke. A most successful meeting. £8 worth of tickets were sold, and the collection amounted to £8.

WADEBRIDGE.—Town Hall, December 6th. Chair, A. Grose, Esq. Speakers, Mrs. Fawcett, LL.D., and Miss Geraldine Cooke. An audience of over 200 assembled to hear Mrs. Fawcett and Miss Cooke. A resolution calling upon the Government to introduce some form of Suffrage for women was passed with only one dissentient.

The local Society much appreciated the honour of a visit from Mrs. Fawcett, and is full of enthusiasm and hope as a result of her visit.

South Wales (*continued*).

MERTHYR AND DISTRICT.—A public meeting was held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, on Friday evening, November 21st. The meeting was presided over by Mrs. Peter Williams, President of the Society. The chief speaker was Miss Foxley, M.A., of Aberdare Hall, Cardiff, who emphasised the importance of personal work for forwarding the Women's Cause. At the close of the meeting eight new members were enrolled.

Forthcoming Meetings.

Correspondents are urgently requested to write distinctly; and to send in not later than the Monday before the announcement is to be inserted. Notices must be addressed to the Sub-Editor.

Several meetings cannot be inserted this week, as correspondents have omitted to mention the towns in which they are to take place. Others have omitted time of meeting.

London.

JANUARY 15.

Barnes—Dunmow Hall—Miss Adler on "Child Labour"—Chair, Mrs. Nott Bower 8.0

East St. Pancras—187, Camden Road—Drawing-room Meeting—Hostess, Mrs. Davies—Short Speech by Miss Rinder—Music 8.0

Hampstead—92, Fellows Road—Drawing-room Meeting—Hostess, Mrs Park—Lantern Lecture, Miss Hibbert-Ware on "Pioneers in Women's Education" 8.15

JANUARY 16.

Tower Hill—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Mrs. Rackham and Miss Goddard—Chair, Miss Bagenal 12.15

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The Provinces.

JANUARY 10.

Little Missenden—Schoolroom—Speaker, Mr. Mitchell—Concert 7.45

JANUARY 11.

Accrington—Grand Theatre—Joint Women's Suffrage and Labour Demonstration—Speakers, Miss Margaret Robertson, Mr. R. Smillie, Mr. S. McGurk, and Mr. T T. Abbott—Chairman, Mr. T E. Barnes

Upper Rhondda—The Labour Club, Pentre—Miss Foxley, M.A. 7.0

JANUARY 12

Birmingham—St. Martin's Hall—Dean Street—Speaker, Mrs. Ring 8.30

Bradford—5, Eldon Place—Speaker, Mrs. Swanwick 7.30

Manchester—Parker's Restaurant, St. Ann's Square—At Home—Speaker, Councillor Margaret Ashton 4.0—5.30

Solihull—Public Hall—Debate on Women's Suffrage—For: Miss Helen Fraser; Against: Mrs. Gladstone Soloman—Chair, Dr. Vaughan Bernays, J.P. 8.0

South Salford—Suffrage Club—Gardenwall Street—Speaker, Mrs. J. R. Tomlinson 8.0

Wallasey and Wirral—Hoylake—Mrs King's Meeting—Speaker, Miss Macadam 2.30

Warrington—Atkinson's Café, Bridge Street—Miss J. Forsyth, B.A., on "Women and Housing Reform" 8.0

JANUARY 13.

Birmingham—Friends' Institute—Hay Mills—Speaker, Mrs. Ring 7.30

Bournemouth—Wilkins' Restaurant, Old Christchurch Road—Hostesses, Mrs. Gohlike and Mrs. Hamilton Grant—Speeches, music, tea—Visitors welcome 4.0—6.0

Bradford—League of Young Liberals—Speaker, Mrs. Swanwick 8.0

JANUARY 14.

Higham—W.L.A.—Miss Griffith-Jones on "Some of the Present Laws as they Affect Women"

Manchester—Salford and Hulme Suffrage Club—Haworth Institute, Ordsall Lane, Salford—Annual Christmas Social 7.30

Swansea—Co-operative Women's Guild, Orange Street—Miss Foxley, M.A. 8.15

Wokingham—Drill Hall—The Committee, "At Home," 4.0—6.0—Result of Prize Competition—"Friends" Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Robie Uniacke 8.0

Woodbridge—The Room, Thorofare—Miss E. Place, on "Employment of Children"

JANUARY 15.

Campden—Town Hall—Speakers, Miss Blanche Smyth Pigott, Miss G. Cooke, Miss Kelly, the Rev. H. Highley—Chair, Lady Blomfield 8.0

Manchester—Ancoats Suffrage Club—396, Oldham Road—Speaker, Miss Hatton 8.0

Newcastle—3, Osborne Terrace—Members' Meeting 8.0

West Bromwich—Library, Lecture Hall—Speaker, Miss H. Fraser

JANUARY 16.

Bournemouth—Princes Hall, Grand Hotel—Public Meeting—Speaker, Mr. Cameron Grant—Chair, The Rev. E. T. Kennedy 4.0

Felixstowe—Hamilton Hall—Miss E. Place on "The Employment of Children"—Chair, Mr. D. J. Cowles, J.P 8.15

Southsea—The Suffrage Rooms—2, Kent Road—Subject: "The Little Commonwealth"—Speaker, Mr. George Montagu 3.0 and 8.0

Broadway—National Schoolroom—Miss Blanche Smyth Pigott (C.W.S.S.), Miss Helen Fraser (N.U.S.S.), Rev. H. Highley (C.L.W.S.)—Chair, Dr. Withers (N.U.S.S.)

JANUARY 17.

Swansea—Y.W.C.A.—Members' Meeting—Mrs. H. Hicks, B.A. 3.30

JANUARY 18.

Swansea—I.L.P. Rooms—National Labourers' Union—Mrs. H. Hicks, B.A. 8.0

Scotland.

JANUARY 9.

Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—At Home—Miss K. M. Loudon (Hon. Sec., Edin. Soc.) on "The Year that's Awa'"—Chair, Miss Gertrude Sayer 4.30

JANUARY 12.

Glasgow—Y.M.C.A. Institute—The Central Literary Society—Debate on "Militancy"

JANUARY 14.

Dunbar—Whist Drive and Dance—Speaker, Miss Alice Crompton

Glasgow—The University—The College District Committee—Cake and Candy Sale 3.0—6.0

JANUARY 15.

Edinburgh—Junior Liberal Club—Temperance Hall, 60, South Bridge—Miss M. A. Pressley-Smith on "The Feminist Movement" 8.0

Kilmarnock—Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Snowden—Chair, Lord Rowallon

Perth—Grand Hotel—Mrs. D Scott Murray on "Women's Suffrage and Foreign Missions" 8.0

JANUARY 16.

Ayr—Meeting—Speaker, Dr. Inglis

Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—At Home—Speaker, Councillor Clarice Macnab 4.30

Miss Abadam's February Engagements.

Miss Abadam, who is making a slow but sure recovery, desires to express her most cordial thanks to friends in all parts of the United Kingdom whose kind letters and messages have cheered her during her illness. The doctors now see no reason why she should not fulfil her February engagements.

Chapter 6

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A Play Nearly a Thousand Years Old by a Benedictine Nun.

On Sunday evening, January 11th, and Monday afternoon, January 12th, the Pioneer Players will produce at the King's Hall, Covent Garden, "Paphnutius," or "The Conversion of Thais," a play written about 960, by Hroswitha, a nun belonging to the Benedictine Monastery of Gandersheim, in Lower Saxony. The play, one of six dramas written by the nun-playwright, "in imitation of the manner but not of the matter of Terence," will be produced by Edith Craig on the simple lines demanded by its construction. When it is remembered that these plays of Hroswitha's are the only ones that have survived from the long period extending between the decay of the Pagan theatre and the rise of the popular mystery and miracle plays, and that, as far as is known, they have never before received a public performance, the Pioneer Players' production of "Paphnutius" promises to be a highly interesting dramatic event. "Paphnutius" has been translated from the original Latin by Christopher St. John, and at certain points during the action, music of the best period of plainsong, specially arranged for this production by a Benedictine nun of to-day, will be sung. Mr. Harcourt Williams will play the monk, Paphnutius, Miss Miriam Lewes the penitent Thais, and Miss Ellen Terry the kindly Abbess who receives her after her flight from the world.

Full particulars of the performances can be obtained from the Honorary Secretary, Pioneer Players, 139, Long Acre, W.C.

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Ten words, 9d. per insertion; every additional ten words, 6d. per insertion. All advertisements should be addressed to The Manager, The Common Cause Publishing Co., Limited, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

SUFFRAGE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LADY, keen Suffragist, desires social work for the cause; small remuneration and expenses.—E., 12, Ross Street, Mill Road, Cambridge.

MEETINGS will be held at the Suffrage Club, 3, York Street, St. James's, S.W. Tuesday, January 13th, 8.30. Speaker, Mrs. C. A. V. Conybeare. Chair, Mrs. Louis Fagan. Subject, "Liberal Women and the Franchise." Thursday, January 15th, at 3.30 p.m. Speaker, Mrs. Nott Bower. Chair, Mr. Cecil Chapman. Subject, "Problems in Law Criminal Amendment."

NEW SUFFRAGE PLAYLET, "Broken-down Motors," 6d.—S., Fordel, Glenfarg.

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Continued from page 758.

MISS M. COHEN, formerly pupil of the Misses Rhoda and Agnes Garrett, Decorator and Designer of Houses, and of the details of Household Furniture and Upholstery. Interviews by appointment. Pupils trained. Telephone: 1729 City.—5, Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury Street, W.C.

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(Manager—HILTON CARTER)

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